

Do I Want God?



01 KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **God is the gift, not just the giver.** When God offered Israel the land without His presence, they mourned. They were learning Bible math: GOD + NOTHING = EVERYTHING. God Himself was always the point.
Exodus 33:1-4
- **Our hearts drift toward gifts over God.** Demas walked away from Paul 'in love with this present world.' Every day, remaining sin pulls us toward God's blessings and away from God Himself.
2 Timothy 4:10
- **Jesus brings us back to God.** Moses interceded for an unfavored people from his favored position — a shadow of Jesus. Christ suffered, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring us to God.
1 Peter 3:18
- **The best day is still ahead.** One day we will see His face. Every longing we've ever had will find its home right there. What makes heaven heaven is not the absence of pain — it's the presence of God.
Revelation 22:4

02 REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- God offered Israel the promised land without His presence. Why would getting everything you've ever wanted — without God — actually be the worst deal imaginable?
- Where in your own life do you find yourself believing the wrong math — that God's gifts are the real prize and God is just the means to get them?
- When God withholds or removes something you love, what does that reveal about what you love most? Has a hard season ever uncovered a hidden idol?
- Moses asked God to stay with people who didn't deserve His presence. Jesus intercedes for us the same way, right now. How does that change how you pray?
- Piper asked: could you be satisfied in heaven if Christ were not there? What's your honest answer — and what does it reveal about your heart?

03 COMMUNITY GROUP PREP

Before your group meets, take a few minutes with these:

1. Read Exodus 33:1-17 and Habakkuk 3:17-18. Sit with this:
Could you rejoice in God if He removed every gift He's given you?
2. Journal on Piper's question: 'If you could have heaven with no sickness, all the friends, all the food — could you be satisfied if Christ were not there?' Write honestly.
3. Come ready to share: one area of life where you're tempted to want what God gives more than God Himself.

04 TABLE TALK — CARRY THE CONVO

Don't let the conversation stop at the door.

- Pastor Rodney talked about a girl who left the guy at the Grand Canyon to call her friends about the ring. How are we sometimes like that with God?
- Why did the people mourn when God said He wouldn't go with them — even though they were still getting the promised land?
- What's one thing in your life right now that you'd have a hard time giving up, even for more of God?
- Memory verse this week — read it, say it, learn it together:

In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. — Psalm 16:11

05 PREP FOR SUNDAY

Exodus has shown us the truth: God sets His people free so they can have Him. We've been set free to be satisfied.

Pray for our church this week. Ask God to keep our hearts hungry for Him. Then come next Sunday ready to hear what He wants to say to us.