

WEEKLY GUIDE

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

1
GATHER!
SUNDAY AND
THURSDAY

2
TALK!
DISCUSS THE
LESSONS

3
DO!
PUT THE
LESSONS INTO
PRACTICE

4
PRAY!
MAKE YOUR
REQUESTS
KNOWN TO GOD

BIBLE READINGS:

Psalm 91:1-2; Exodus 3:5-6; Exodus 33:11-23; Genesis 3:7-10, 21; Hebrews 7:27, 8:28, 10:14; Zechariah 3:1-4; Numbers 6:22-26; Psalm 2:12, 24:6, 32:1; John 1:17-18

EXODUS 33:11-23

The Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent. Moses said to the Lord, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people." The Lord replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?" And the Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name." Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory." And the Lord said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live." Then the Lord said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."

NUMBERS 6:24-26

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

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DISCUSSION:

What is meant by "The Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend" (Exodus 33:11)? Do you have a face to face friendship with the Lord? What is the basis of that friendship? How does someone become a friend of God? Can you think of any Scriptures that speak to this?

What is the difference between Exodus 33:11 and Exodus 33:20? How can someone have a face to face relationship with God but still not see His face? Why is this so? What does it mean to ask to see God's glory? What is the difference between relationship and reality?

Why do we need a covering in order to experience God's glorious presence and see God's face? How does Genesis 3:7-10 relate to this discussion? Why is it so important that we have that covering before we die? Why is our default often fear and hiding? What is God's default?

What is the ultimate blessing referred to in Numbers 6:24-26? How do we experience this blessing (John 1:17-18)? Why is God's presence synonymous with the blessing? What other things are associated with God's presence and blessing? (Numbers 6:26, Exodus 33:14, Psalm 2:12 and 32:1)?

APPLICATION:

What impacted you the most from this lesson? What were your big takeaways? What will you apply to your life? How will you put what you learned into practice in your life this week?

SUMMARY:

We need a covering! A place of safety. A place where we are hidden in the cleft of the Rock and covered by His hand, in the shadow of the Almighty. Moses experienced this personally in Exodus 33. Moses asked to see God's glory. God said, "Alright, but no one can see My face and live." So God made a way for Moses to experience His glorious presence, and live. The Lord said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen" (Exodus 33:21-23). Aren't you thankful there is a place near God for you? A place of forgiveness, peace, and rest. A place where you are hidden in Christ, the Rock, where you can experience God's glory and His presence despite your sin because of what Jesus did for you on the cross.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

