



DISCUSSION GUIDE

ENLARGING YOUR FAITH - Exodus 33:7-23

GETTING STARTED

What is one thing you are thankful for this week and what is one thing we can pray for you this week?

Remind each other of our simple expectations for meeting together

When you are frustrated, disappointed, discouraged, what makes you feel better, or gives you a better perspective?

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

What idea, context, Scripture do you think could have been expanded on, or included in the message?

How do you define faith? How is it different from belief?

What specific thing has enlarged your faith and trust in God? Why?

In what area is God "enlarging your faith?"

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Exodus 33:7-23]

(Good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.) Work through this quickly, the answers are fairly obvious.

Where did Moses go to meet with the Lord? (33:7-8)

What would happen when Moses went into the tent? (33:9)

How would the people respond when Moses went into the tent? (33:10)

How would God speak to Moses? (33:11)

How did Moses express his frustration to the Lord? (33:12-13)

How did the Lord respond to Moses' plea for guidance? (33:14)

In what way was the Lord's presence critical to Moses? (33:15-16)

What did the Lord say to Moses concerning their relationship? (33:17)

What incredible request did Moses make of God? (33:18)

How did the Lord respond to Moses' request? (33:19)

What did the Lord tell Moses he could not see? (33:20)

Where did God tell Moses to stand? (33:21)

How did the Lord cover Moses when He passed by? (33:22)

What did the Lord allow Moses to see? (33:23)

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

What would you describe as your “tent of meeting”? What was the point of the “tent of meeting”? How do you respond to the imagery that God can speak to us “face to face, as one speaks to a friend”?

In your group, as best you can, name some of the obstacles that Moses has faced in helping God’s people enter the promised land? How has disappointment and failure, as well as success been a hallmark of Moses’ life? In what way can you relate to Moses?

What drains you of enlarging your faith, hope and trust in God? Why?

Describe how cynicism, hard-heartedness, and disappointment threatens experiencing a growing faith and trust in God?

Dave made the point that Moses models how to enlarge our faith even in the most difficult circumstances. That an enlarging faith prays; 1. Teach me your ways (v.13), 2. Promise me your presence (v14-17), and 3. Show me Your glory (v17-23).

In what way would this change, or kickstart your prayer life?

What do you need to “learn about His ways”? What would it look like for you to learn his ways, as opposed to asking God to change your circumstances?

How can God’s presence give you perspective in your struggles?

Where have you settled for comfort, or safety with God, rather than for His presence?

What would it look like for you to ask God to show you His glory?

How does it make you feel to know that God knows you by name?

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?

What may God be asking you to change, do differently, repent of, pray about as a result of engaging with this passage?

How can we pray for each other?