

July 21, 2019

Speaker: Eric Naus **Series:** God With Us **Passage:** Exodus 33:18-34:9

Community Group Questions: "Seeing God"

Read Exodus 33:18-34:9 and the work through the following discussion questions.

1. In 33:18, Moses asks God a daring question: "Show me your glory!" Moses knew that if he could catch a deeper glimpse of God's character and beauty, he'd find strength to trust God all the way to the promised land. So, he had a "holy hunger" to see even more of God! What about you? If you were being extremely honest, do you have a holy hunger to experience and see even more of God? What things in your life tend to dampen your passion for God? What things tend to "stir up your affection" for him? What practical steps could you take in your life, even this week, to pursue God with all your heart?
2. In response to God's question, God reveals several of his attributes to Moses. God declares that he is good (vs. 19a), sovereign (vs. 19b), holy (vs. 20), and knowable (vv. 23). Which of these attributes especially grips you and why? Which of these attributes help you trust God more on a personal level?
3. In 34:1-9, God passes by Moses, hides him in the crack of a rock, and declares several of his attributes as he passes. Moses hears a description of the very "nuclear core" of who God is. Especially as you look at verses 6 and 7, which of the attributes of God listed there have been especially meaningful in your life as you've interacted with God? Are any of these attributes harder for you to believe about God? Why?
4. God's attributes in verses 6 and 7 seem to have an internal contradiction: God is merciful, gracious, patient, loving, faithful, and forgiving toward guilty sinners, and yet, he is completely just – he will not "clear the guilty." How does this seeming contradiction between the forgiveness of God and the justice of God find resolution at the cross of Jesus Christ? How can Christian believers be absolutely confident that they've been absorbed into the endless, comprehensive, love of God?
5. What do you think about the following statement: "If you want to trust God more, you need to see more of God!" Which of the attributes of God in this passage do you especially need to meditate on, that you might trust God more completely in your daily life?

Prayer suggestion: Along with praying for the needs in your group, take time to simply praise God for who he is, for his character, and for his attributes.