

**Aug 4, 2019**

**Speaker:** Eric Naus **Series:** God With Us **Passage:** Exodus 34:29-35

## Community Group Questions: "Reflecting God"

1. Read Exodus 34:29-35 aloud as a group. Take time to analyze the story itself. What jumps out at you as you read this account? What interesting observations can you make? How does this story fit in with the larger narrative of Exodus? (especially the golden calf tragedy of chapter 32, and God's intention to reconcile with his people in chapters 33 and 34).
2. Putting ourselves "in the shoes of Moses," we can apply this passage to our own lives. Notice that Moses had spent 40 days and 40 nights all alone up on Mt. Sinai (see 34:28). He was engaging in fervent prayer, listening to God's Word, and worshiping. In other words, Moses was engaging in what we might call "personal devotions." What about you? Have you established a regular time and place for engaging in daily Scripture reading, prayer, and worship? What spiritual habits and routines have really worked well for you and helped you grow? In what ways does your devotional life need to improve?
3. When Moses came down from the mountain, his face looked like God – he was radiant with God's glory (see vs. 29). The principle here for us is this: "the more you see God, the more people will see God in you!" Have you found this to be true in your life? How would consistent time with God affect your interactions with your spouse, children, colleagues, friends, and neighbors? As Christians, what attributes of God should people "see in our face" as they spend time interacting with us?
4. Moses' radiant face was meant to reinforce his message: he spoke God's word to the people (see especially verses 31-33). When he was done speaking, he would cover his face with a veil. The principle is this: "The more people see God in you, the more they'll listen to God's Word through you." Have you found this principle to be true in your life? Why is it so important for our lives to match our message?
5. We need to put ourselves "in the shoes of the Israelites" to make one final application out of the story. Notice that the Israelites only had access to God's Word and his grace if they looked to their mediator, Moses. In a similar way, you and I can only know the living God and his saving grace if we come to him through Jesus Christ – the one Moses pointed to! Read 2 Cor. 3:18 and 4:6. How does Jesus reveal God to us? How have you personally heard, seen, and embraced God most fully as you've looked into the face of Jesus?

**Prayer suggestion:** Thank God for giving us the privilege of reflecting his glory to an onlooking world. Ask for the Spirit's power that we might radiate Christ to those around us.