



## **VOICES V**

In our 2020 VOICES series, we welcome four guests from the larger body of Christ to open God's Word and bring perspective we need. This year's speakers include Jackie Hill Perry, Mark Sayers, Jon Tyson, and John Mark Comer.

### **2: RENEWAL / MARK SAYERS**

Read the text: Exodus 33:7-11

Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise up, and each would stand at his tent door, and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise up and worship, each at his tent door. Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.

Moses, and Israel, were in the midst of significant transition as they wandered from the exodus out of Egypt into the Promised Land. We see that God uses transitions like these to bring about renewal among His people. And it is those who go to meet with

God who will experience this renewal. Moses met with God “face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.”

Like Moses and Israel, we are in a time of significant transition today. Crisis like this precedes renewal and God often uses times of great transition to form His people in significant ways. Like Moses, we will be formed when we enter into the hidden place in the presence of God.

### **Discussion Questions:**

*These questions are written for DNA groups, but you can use in any setting, including missional communities. Because they were written for the intimacy of DNA friendships, you may need to adjust for larger groups.*

1. Mark Sayers shared some of the ways we are living in the midst of transition today and crisis today. Take some time as a group to reflect on the transitions you're experiencing right now and how they are affecting you. Avoid focusing on abstract ideas and try to be as tangible as possible regarding the way you are personally experiencing transition and the pains of change right now?
2. Mark shared that “crisis precedes renewal.” Reflect on your own story and share ways that God has used times of crisis in your life to bring about renewal in your heart.
3. When we encounter transition, we often just want to “get through it” or “get back to normal.” This was seen in the Exodus story when Israel said it would have been better if they were just back in Egypt. As you think about the transitions that 2020 has brought to your life, how have you responded? Have you just tried to get through it or longed for things to just get back to normal? Or, have you stopped to pay attention to the renewal God wants to do in you in the midst of the crisis? What would that look like?

4. In the midst of transition, God invites us to enter into His presence and meet with Him to be transformed. God brings about renewal in our lives during crisis when we stop to be with Him. As Mark said, we will be “formed in the hidden place in the presence of God.” How are you currently pursuing this in your life? What does that tangibly look like for you? How do you need to grow in this? Share with each other some tangible steps you will take to meet with God and pursue personal renewal in the midst of transition. Take time to pray for each other and ask how you can help each other pursue this.