

God's Presence Among His People

Exodus 33:1-17

May 24, 2023

We Need God's Presence :: 33:1-6

God said that he would still take them to the promised land but He would not go with them.

- Many want the benefits and blessings of God without the relationship, responsibility, and accountability.
- But this grieved the Israelites. They mourned over God's presence not going with them.

Our greatest need is God himself, not necessarily his benefits.

We Need Communication or Communion with God :: 33:7-11

Tent of meeting - not the tabernacle but a tent for Moses to meet with God. The tent was outside the camp, away from the people.

Today...we don't have to go to a tent. We don't have to go to a mediator. We have immediate access to God through the Spirit

Ephesians 2:18 - For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

We Need to Depend on God :: 33:12-16

33:12-16 - Moses' request of God was not necessarily for his own earthly blessing. He wanted to know more of God. He had talked with God. He had seen his glory in the cloud. He had witnessed his miracles. Now he said, "Show me your ways."

Vv. 15-16 - If your glory doesn't go with us, then please don't send us.

1. Moses knew that he could not make it without the Lord. This should be our heart as well.

2. Moses began to intercede for the people again. God had promised to be with Moses but not the people. Moses shifts to the plural and says for God to not send any of them if he does not go with them.

We Need a Mediator :: 33:17

We learn why God decided to be with them: the mediator, Moses.

Still today, God's presence is a result of a mediator: Jesus Christ. **1 Timothy 2:5**

1 Peter 3:18 - *For Christ also suffered[b] once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,*

Ephesians 3:11-12 - *This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.*