

PRE-PRAYER

A HEART AFTER GOD

JANUARY 24 • Craig Rees, Lead Pastor
THE HEAVENLY COMMUNION

BIG IDEA

God has prepared a place of prayer where we behold His glory and reflect it to the world.

KEY SCRIPTURE

Exodus 33

Exodus 16:7-10

Romans 3:21-26

Exodus 34:33-35

Exodus 24:16-17

Joshua 7:6-13

Exodus 3:6

2 Corinthians 3

1. Read Exodus 33:3 within the context of Romans 3:21-26. How do you interpret what the Lord said to Moses in light of the finished work of Christ?
2. “Moses knew that they could not be the people of God without maintaining the presence of God.” In what ways is this Old Testament reality no longer the reality of a believer in Jesus?
3. Read Exodus 33:12-13. Moses asks for God to teach him His ways so that the Moses would continue to find favor with God. Why do you think Moses asks for understanding at this point in the chapter?
4. Read Exodus 33:14-17. God promises to give Moses rest and yet on two occasions Moses connects himself with the fate of his people even though they have made his task far more difficult than it already was. What qualities does a leader need to possess to push past the disappointing behavior of the people they lead and stand up for them when it matters most?
5. Moses’ request that the Lord show him His glory was not personal but purposeful. With the events of the preceding chapter and Exodus 3:6, 16:7-10, and 24:16-17 as background, what do you think was going on in this encounter between the Lord and Moses?
6. Read Exodus 34:33-35 and 2 Corinthians 3:12-17. When you came to Christ the veil was taken away. What does that statement mean for you personally? When you hear it, what do you think?
7. Read Joshua 7:6-13. Yet again we see leaders interceding before God on behalf of rebellious people. What makes Joshua 7 interesting is the fact that God says the time for prayer is done (v13) and the time for action has come. That said, the implication is clear. We cannot answer the call to go until we have obeyed his beckoning to come. In light of this:
 - a. What implications do you think the call *to come* before *we go* has for your life “in the world”?
 - b. What implications does this have for those of us who worship through “serving”?
 - c. How can you strike the balance between coming and going? How can you avoid coming but never going, and going without ever coming?