## Asking for a Friend: Is God an Angry Judge? April 16, 2023

## Exodus 34:1-8

- 1 Then the LORD told Moses, "Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones. I will write on them the same words that were on the tablets you smashed. 2 Be ready in the morning to climb up Mount Sinai and present yourself to me on the top of the mountain. 3 No one else may come with you. In fact, no one is to appear anywhere on the mountain. Do not even let the flocks or herds graze near the mountain."
- **4** So Moses chiseled out two tablets of stone like the first ones. Early in the morning he climbed Mount Sinai as the LORD had commanded him, and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands.
- **5** Then the LORD came down in a cloud and stood there with him; and he called out his own name, Yahweh. **6** The LORD passed in front of Moses, calling out,

"Yahweh! The LORD!

The God of compassion and mercy!

I am slow to anger

and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

**7** I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations.

I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin.

But I do not excuse the guilty.

I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren;

the entire family is affected—

even children in the third and fourth generations."

**8** Moses immediately threw himself to the ground and worshiped.

## **Discussion/Journal Questions**

What makes you angry? What pet peeves irritate you the most? How do you act when you are angry or upset?

How was anger or other strong emotions dealt with at home? Was anger handled in a healthy or unhealthy was in your home?

When you think about God being angry, what images or pictures come to mind?

Read Exodus 34:1-8. How does God describe Himself in this passage? How does this picture of God connect with or challenge your own picture of God?

What questions does this passage raise for you?

How is God and his anger different from humans and our anger?

If God did not get angry over sin, what would that say about God?

Read Deuteronomy 31:16-18 and Romans 1:21-32. What happens when God lets us go our own way and make our own choices?

Read 2 Peter 3:9 and John 1:14. Reflect on these verses in light of Exodus 34 and our discussion on God's anger. What does God for people? How does He go about getting what He wants?

How can your group pray for you this week?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?