MOSES | Meeting with God

| KEY THOUGHTS

- Remember that Moses may be going up the mountain but God is the one who comes down from heaven.
- God ask: “Are you willing to obey my commands?”
- God ask: “Are you willing to listen?”
- God ask: “Are you willing to be guided?”
- The guardrails God gives us are meant to keep us on the road and not allow us to fly off the mountain.
- God ask: “Are you willing to experience the Holiness of God?”
- A shallow view of God leads to a shallow faith.
- **Big Idea**: God speaks through Moses to prepare Israel to meet with Him in being willing to obey, to listen, to be guided and to experience His holiness.

| SCRIPTURE

Exodus 19:3–6
The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

Exodus 19:8–9
All the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD. And the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever."

Exodus 19:10–12
When Moses told the words of the people to the LORD, the LORD said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments and be ready for the third day. For on the third day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. And you shall set limits for the people all around, saying, 'Take care not to go up into the mountain or touch the edge of it. Whoever touches the mountain shall be put to death.

Exodus 19:16–17
On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain.

| REFLECT

- What is the number one lesson you have learned about preparing for a meeting?

- What do we learn about God when He ask: "Are you willing to obey?" and everyone response with "Yes," but God knows they won't? What does that say about us and our responses to God?

- Listening to God is a double-edged sword. We like listening when we hear what we want to hear, but hard when we hear difficult or challenging words. How do you balance those extremes of hearing form the Lord?

- Can you share a time where you didn't listen to the Lord's guidance and went over the guardrails? What are the benefits of following the guidance of the Lord?

- Do you agree that we have removed some of the "Holiness of God" to make Him more relatable? How do you balance worshiping a holy God and yet desires a relationship with an imperfect person – you?

| PRACTICAL

Do you have a plan when it comes to meeting with God? If so, write it out. If you don't read Exodus 19 and learn from God's instructions for Israel. Come up with a place, limit distractions, begin with a prayer about obeying and listening, and find a way you will track the ways the Lord is guiding you.

Take some time reflect and write about the holiness of God. You might just write words. You might list out scriptures about his holiness. You might listen to a song or draw a picture that reflects the holiness of God.

"Go! You are sent as missionaries where you work, live, learn and play."