



Outward Group Discussion Guide

April 5, 2026 (Silverton)

SUMMARY

This Easter sermon challenges believers to examine whether they desire God's presence or merely the blessings He can provide. Using Moses' interaction with God in Exodus 33 as the foundation, the message explores how we often engage in a restless pursuit of the "promised land"—comfort, success, pleasure, security—without truly seeking God Himself. The sermon demonstrates how Jesus, through His life, death, and resurrection, provides access to God's presence and offers genuine rest for our souls. The resurrection validates everything Jesus promised, including His eternal presence with believers through the Holy Spirit. The core question posed is: Would you be satisfied with heaven if Christ wasn't there? The answer reveals whether we want God or just His gifts.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you honestly examine your prayers and desires, are you seeking God's presence or simply the benefits and blessings He can provide?
2. Moses refused to go to the promised land without God's presence. What areas of your life are you pursuing without inviting God to come with you?
3. David Foster Wallace said that worshiping anything other than God will eat you alive. What things in your life are you tempted to worship instead of God, and how have they affected you?
4. How does the reality that Jesus was forsaken by the Father on the cross so that we would never be forsaken change your understanding of God's commitment to you?
5. The sermon suggests we often want heaven's benefits without wanting Christ Himself. If heaven had everything you desired but Jesus wasn't there, would you be satisfied?
6. In what ways do you use technology, social media, or other modern tools as substitutes for God's omnipresence and omniscience?

7. What would change in your daily life if you truly believed that God's presence is more valuable than anything He could give you?
8. The Apostle Paul provided extensive eyewitness testimony to the resurrection. What evidence for the resurrection do you find most compelling, and how does it strengthen your faith?
9. Jesus promises rest for those who are weary and heavy laden. What burdens are you carrying that you need to surrender in exchange for His rest?
10. If your church community was truly saturated with the presence of God, what specific transformations would you expect to see in individuals, families, and the broader community?