

# Sermon Guide



## “God’s Presence, Purpose, and Power”

August 27, 2023

The Lord answered Moses, “I will do this very thing you have asked, for you have found favor with me, and I know you by name.” Then Moses said, “Please, let me see your glory.” He said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name ‘the Lord’ before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” **Exodus 33:17-19**

1. Rick explained that we, sinful humans, often struggle with the idolatry of control and circumstantial comfort. This is very similar to the Israelites, who began to doubt the Lord again only six weeks after their exodus from slavery. Rick then reminded us that the moments when we feel the most powerless are often the greatest opportunities to be drawn closer to the heart of our Father. Reread Moses' plea to God in Exodus 33:12-18. Which circumstances in our own lives do we need to bring before the Lord? What could it look like for your community to plead before the Lord together?
2. Take note of the reiteration of "my" and "I" in Exodus 6:1-5. God lovingly redirects Moses to the reality that He, alone, is the one in control. Rick taught us that our only path forward is to submit and to surrender to God alone. What are we grasping for instead? God will do everything that He says, just not in the exact way we demand. What false expectations are we placing upon the Lord and His ways?
3. The Gospel serves as God's unconditional compromise and eternal commitment to us. Rick challenged us to identify the areas in our own lives which we need Gospel focus and hope. Where do you need to remember the truth of the Gospel? How can we remind ourselves, and our community, daily of Gospel hope?

**Take Your Next Step of Faith.** What next step of faith will you take in response to today’s teaching?