



# BECOMING

*From slaves to sons*





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*From slaves to sons*

BIBLE STUDY LESSONS  
FOR C.O.R.E. GROUP  
DISCIPLESHIP



**EVERY NATION**  
ABU DHABI

# A Cry Heard by Heaven

- What is the most unforgettable challenge you have faced by far? How did you overcome it?
- Recall a time when you desperately needed help and someone helped you. Share about this experience.

<sup>23</sup> During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. <sup>24</sup> And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. <sup>25</sup> God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.

## **EXODUS 2:23-25 (SEE ALSO GENESIS 15:13,14; EXODUS 1)**

The Israelites lived in peace and prospered in Egypt during Joseph's time. However, a new Pharaoh came to power who knew nothing about Joseph nor his accomplishments. Concerned about the growing population of the Israelites, Pharaoh enslaved and forced them into harsh labour for many years. Even after Pharaoh's death, the Israelites remained in great despair.

In their anguish, they cried out and their cries rose to God. This marked a turning point in God's promised deliverance for the Israelites, reflecting His unwavering faithfulness to the covenant He made with their forefathers.

# LEARN TO LEARN

How have you learned to lean on God rather than depend on yourself?

## When do we experience God's compassionate love the strongest?

### 1. When we cry out to Him in our deep pain.

<sup>23</sup> During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. <sup>24</sup> And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

Exodus 2:23,24

The Bible describes how the Israelites groaned under the bondage of slavery that greatly affected them mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. In their suffering, they desperately cried out to God, and He heard them.

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### 2. When we cling to His steadfast faithfulness.

“.... And God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.”

Exodus 2:24

In this verse, God's “remembering” does not mean God had forgotten the Israelites; rather, it shows His active response rooted in His faithfulness to His promise to them.

What is a specific promise from God's Word that you're holding on to now and why?

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### 3. When we trust that He knows and understands us.

*"God saw the people of Israel – and God knew."*

*Exodus 2:25*

We see God's deep awareness towards the Israelites and their struggles. He saw all their suffering and was never detached from them. God was not intimidated by the weight of their pain and He responded with great compassion towards them.

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When have you felt that you were fully seen and known by God?  
How did you respond to Him?

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# LET'S PRAY

- Ask the Lord for you to grow in your understanding of His deep compassion for you.
- Pray that you may show God's compassion to people you interact with daily in practical ways.

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- If you have recently faced a seemingly hopeless situation, how did God show His compassion toward you?
- This week, reach out to someone you know to whom you can show God's compassion in a practical way.

# Called to a Higher Purpose (God recommissions Moses)

- If you could go back in time and handle a past situation, would you do it the same way or not? Why?
- How would you prepare yourself mentally and/or emotionally to speak in front of a person in high authority?

# READ THIS TIME

<sup>10</sup> *Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”* <sup>11</sup> *But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”* <sup>12</sup> *He said, “But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”* <sup>13</sup> *Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?”* <sup>14</sup> *God said to Moses, “I am who I am.”* And he said, *“Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”* <sup>15</sup> *God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.”*

## EXODUS 3:10-15

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Moses had a princely background. However, he turned away from it after murdering an Egyptian. He fled for his life. He became a shepherd for the next 40 years until God met him again at a burning bush.

No matter how far we have fallen, God will show His sufficiency and ability to complete the good work He began in us. His power brings hope. He can redeem us from our sins and fulfill His purpose in our lives. However, this requires one thing from us: faithful obedience to His commands.

# LEARN LESSONS

## How does God restore us when we fall?

### 1. He calls us back and reminds us of our identity.

<sup>10</sup> "Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup> He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

Exodus 3:10-12

Moses was held back by his inadequacy and past mistakes yet God called him anyway as well as reminded him of his identity: chosen by God to lead the Israelites out from slavery.

What are negative thoughts about yourself that you need to reject?  
What is the truth that God is saying about yourself that you need to accept?

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## 2. He assures us of His presence and reveals more of Himself.

<sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I am who I am." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I am has sent me to you.'" <sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."

Exodus 3:13-15

Our restoration to God includes a deeper intimacy with Him. In weakness and failure, God allows us to know Him more. His omnipresence reminds us that we are never alone in our trials, and His strength will lead us to victory.

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Share a time when you felt God's presence was with you during a time of failure. What have you learned about yourself and God?

## 3. He reaffirms our purpose and destiny.

<sup>10</sup> "Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." <sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."

Exodus 3:10,15

When we view life's trials in God's perspective, we will learn to rely on Him fully and carry out His purpose faithfully. Oftentimes, God uses hardships to produce growth and godly character or bring restoration in our lives. When we embrace them, we experience His grace that transforms us from glory to glory.

*From any trial  
you have  
experienced  
in the past,  
what lesson  
can you teach  
to the next  
generation?*

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# LET'S PRAY

- Pray for someone who needs restoration of their relationship with God and/or others.
- Ask God to point out any area of your life that He wants to restore. Surrender it to Him.

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- Reach out to someone you know who needs to feel God's presence in their difficult situation.
- In the next few days, testify to someone about how God has helped you overcome a hard trial you went through.

# Known by Name, Revealed by Power

- If you can change anything in your life, what would it be and why?
- What is a weakness you have that you don't mind admitting to anyone?

# LET'S READ

<sup>1</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, “See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. <sup>2</sup> You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh to let the people of Israel go out of his land. <sup>3</sup> But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, <sup>4</sup> Pharaoh will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and bring my hosts, my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great acts of judgment. <sup>5</sup> The Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring out the people of Israel from among them.” <sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron did so; they did just as the Lord commanded them.

## EXODUS 7:1-6 (READ ALSO EXODUS 9 & 10)

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In Egyptian culture, a pharaoh is both ruler and representative of the gods and sometimes, regarded as a god himself. Therefore, confronting him would be speaking to a deity which could be daunting if not outright intimidating. Moses and Aaron did it nonetheless, showing that only the Lord God deserved their complete obedience, worship and loyalty.

In this passage, we see that though Moses felt weak and unqualified, God showed His power that worked in and through Moses to bravely confront Pharaoh. God sovereignly chooses the weak or unqualified to reveal that He is the true source of power, not man.

# LEARN LIFE

When have you experienced God turning your weakness into strength? Briefly share how it happened.

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## How does God's power work in your life?

### 1. God's power works in and through His chosen vessels.

<sup>1</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. <sup>2</sup> You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh to let the people of Israel go out of his land."

Exodus 7:1,2

Even when Moses felt inadequate, God assured him of His mighty help. He turns weakness into strength as He works in and through us. When we act in faith and align ourselves with God's will, His glory will be seen in and through our lives that can also lead others to know Him. God will always provide us the strength to step into what He has called us to do.

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### 2. God's power works to brings deliverance.

<sup>3</sup> "But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, <sup>4</sup> Pharaoh will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and bring my hosts, my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great acts of judgment. <sup>5</sup> The Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring out the people of Israel from among them."

Exodus 7:3-5

Difficult circumstances, failures and obstacles are opportunities for God to reveal Himself to us. God had already warned Moses that He would harden the Pharaoh's heart. Even Pharaoh's resistance to God's command was woven into the Lord's larger plan to eventually reveal His great power and divine justice.

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*Why was it important for Moses and Aaron to obey even though God had warned them that Pharaoh would not listen? How do you respond when God's command seems to make no sense to you?*

### **3. God's power works through our obedience.**

*Moses and Aaron did so; they did just as the Lord commanded them.*

*Exodus 7:6*

God's power moves in our lives when we walk in obedience to Him. After following God's command, He used Moses to deliver the Israelites from Egypt. What kind of "Pharaohs" (obstacles, challenges, people's opposition, etc.) have you faced that made obedience feel impossible? We will not see God's miracles until we step out in faith and obey what the Lord has said.

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*Share an experience when you saw God move after you took a step of obedience in a challenging situation.*

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# LET'S PRAY

- Pray for boldness, obedience and a deeper understanding of God's power.
- Ask God to make you a vessel of His power to others.

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# LET'S APPLY

- *How can you be more aware of and responsive to God's power at work in your life?*
- *What do you think God could accomplish in your life if you surrendered more fully to His leading?*

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# Justice at the Door

- Have you ever faced punishment for a serious offense, or were you shown mercy instead?
- What do you believe is a fair punishment for a serious crime like murder?

<sup>12</sup> "For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup> The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt."

**EXODUS 12:12,13**

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In the previous chapters, God had repeatedly warned Pharaoh through Moses, that He would send plagues to demonstrate His sovereignty over him. However, Pharaoh's heart remained hardened and refused to let God's people go. In turn, God was now about to send the 10<sup>th</sup> and final plague over Egypt, which is the death of the firstborns. This judgment would lead to the deliverance of God's people from slavery.

## How should we understand God and His judgment?

## 1. God is perfectly just and holy.

<sup>12</sup> "For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup> The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt."

*Exodus 12:12,13*

God pronounced His judgment on Egypt for its idolatry and evil oppression of Israel. He would be striking dead all of Egypt's firstborns, including Pharaoh's and their livestocks'. This final plague was brought about because of stubborn opposition against God.

## 2. God is lovingly merciful and gracious.

"The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt."

## Exodus 12:13

God provided the means for the Israelites to be saved by marking their doorposts with an animal's blood. Although the Lord judged Egypt, He showed His mercy to Israel by "passing over" their houses, thus sparing them from destruction.

*Just as the blood spared the Israelites from destruction, the blood of Jesus has saved us from the punishment of our sin. How have you experienced God's mercy and forgiveness lately?*

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### **3. God is the author of hope and redemption.**

*"The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt."*

*Exodus 12:13*

The Israelites had to put their trust in God's promise by marking their doorposts with the blood of the lamb. This was God's way of redeeming His people. Today, we hold on to the hope of Christ's death, resurrection and imminent return as our redemption both now and for eternity.

*Have you placed your hope in Christ to redeem you from all unrighteousness, rebellion and idolatry? Briefly share your testimony of salvation.*

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# LET'S PRAY

- Pray for God to search your heart for any unconfessed sin and claim His promised forgiveness.
- Ask God to lead you to someone you can share with about His mercy and forgiveness.

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# LET'S APPLY

- Recall the trouble/s from which God has delivered you, and thank Him for His unfailing mercy.
- Share your salvation experience with someone this week to encourage them in their faith.

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# God's Faithfulness amidst His people's grumblings

- Share one thing that annoyed you this week.
- When you feel overwhelmed, do you find yourself grumbling or losing patience more easily? Why is that so?

# LESS READ

<sup>11</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, <sup>12</sup> “I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

## EXODUS 16:11,12

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The Israelites began their journey through the wilderness toward the Promised Land. Despite witnessing God's powerful hand that saved them from Egypt, doubt filled their hearts, causing them to turn away from the Lord easily. God heard their complaints but remained faithful to them nonetheless.

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## How does God respond to our unbelief?

### 1. He hears us in our complaints.

*“.... I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel.”*

*Exodus 16:12a*

God heard the concerns of the Israelites and was fully attentive to their situation, demonstrating His patience and compassion even when His people grumbled. This reminds us that God listens even when we're grumbling.

*Have you ever felt like God was not listening to you? How does this verse speak to you today?*

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### 2. He faithfully meets our needs.

*“Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning, you shall be filled with bread.’”*

*Exodus 16:12b*

Despite the Israelites' grumbling, God supplied what they needed, assuring them they would have food day and night. Although His provision had been promised to them from the beginning, the Israelites were too focused on their difficult circumstances that they failed to recognize God's goodness in their lives.

When have you overlooked God's provision because of your difficult situation? How did you view God differently after He had seen you through?

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### 3. He points us back to Himself.

*"Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God."*

*Exodus 16:12c*

God's provision shows who He is, the God who provides. When He provided the Israelites with food, His intention was not only to meet their physical needs but also to show that He is their God who is good. God uses what He provides to deepen our relationship with and trust in Him.

Why do you think God wants you to see Him beyond your difficult situation?

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# LET'S PRAY

- Ask God to help you replace any unbelief with faith and gratitude to Him.
- Thank God for His faithfulness to you in every season of your life.

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- What is one area in your life that you need to trust God's provision more and what step will you take to do that?
- How can you turn your grumbling into Thanksgiving?

# Sin Confronted, Grace Extended

- Share an experience when you talked with someone who needed to change but wouldn't. What stood in their way?
- Recall a time when you messed up but recovered because of someone's help. What kind of help did they give you?

<sup>1</sup> When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, “Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” <sup>2</sup> So Aaron said to them, “Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” <sup>3</sup> So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. <sup>4</sup> And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden<sup>[a]</sup> calf. And they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” <sup>5</sup> When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, “Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord.” <sup>6</sup> And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

#### EXODUS 32:1-6

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While Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving God's law, the Israelites grew impatient. They pressured Aaron to make a golden calf for them to worship. Instead of worshiping the living God, they turned to an idol, which was a direct act of rebellion and unfaithfulness against the God who had just delivered them from slavery. The Israelite's failure reveals a human tendency to be impatient, fearful and drawn to false securities.

Despite Israel's disobedience and idolatry, God did not abandon them. Instead, He disciplined them in love and renewed His covenant with them. God's grace is never-ending. He reaches out to us in our unfaithfulness not because we're deserving but because His grace is much greater than our sins.

# LEARN LIFE

Where do you find yourself tempted to be impatient with God, and when are you most likely to take matters into your own hands instead of waiting on His timing?

## When do we experience God's grace in our lives?

### 1. In our impatience.

*When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, "Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."*

*Exodus 32:1*

Due to the impatience of the Israelites wanting immediate answers, they acted in rebellion against God's will. Despite this, God's grace met the people in their restless moment, reminding them that He was in control of the situation.

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### 2. In our unfaithfulness.

<sup>2</sup> So Aaron said to them, "Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." <sup>3</sup> So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. <sup>4</sup> And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"

*Exodus 32:2-4*

Our modern-day idols may not be literal golden calves, but they can be our worldly ambition, career, money, success, relationships, etc. God's grace comes when He convicts us of our sins and calls us back to Him.

How can recalling  
God's past  
faithfulness help  
you resist the  
temptation to  
turn to man-made  
idols?

### 3. In our failures.

<sup>5</sup> When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord." <sup>6</sup> And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

Exodus 32:5,6

Despite the Israelites' tendency to trust in things other than God, He was still merciful towards them. When we turn to God in repentance, He forgives us. He remains compassionate toward us even if we miss the mark. In the end, His ultimate goal is for us to be restored back to Him.

How does your  
understanding of  
God's grace help you  
deal with guilt and  
shame that leads to  
obeying Him?

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# LET'S PRAY

- Pray for someone you know who needs to experience God's grace, and ask the Lord to open an opportunity for you to minister His grace to this person.
- Pray for a humble heart that seeks out God's grace whenever you stumble or feel weak.

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# LET'S APPLY

- Identify a weakness or struggle where you need God's transforming grace. Share it with a trusted person for prayer and encouragement.
- This week, take one step for you to live more fully in God's grace, rather than be stuck in sin or regret.

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# Hosting God's Presence

- If there's one person you would like to partner with to accomplish a task, who would they be, and why?
- How do you typically prepare for a given assignment?

# READ THIS

<sup>12</sup> Moses said to the Lord, “See, you say to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ <sup>13</sup> Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” <sup>14</sup> And he said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” <sup>15</sup> And he said to him, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. <sup>16</sup> For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?” <sup>17</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, “This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” <sup>18</sup> Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” <sup>19</sup> And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. <sup>20</sup> But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.” <sup>21</sup> And the Lord said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, <sup>22</sup> and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup> Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

## EXODUS 33:12-23

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God commanded the Israelites to leave Mount Sinai and move to the Promised Land. At one point, He told Moses that His Presence would not go with them because of the people's disobedience—He would send His angels to guide them instead. The people grieved and took off their ornaments as a sign of repentance. Moses spoke with God at the tent of meeting and interceded on behalf of the people. God granted Moses' request and reassured him that His Presence would go with them.

# LEARN LIFE

Like Moses, we are also called to carry out certain tasks from the Lord. What struggles have you recently faced where you needed God's help?

## Why should we desire have God's presence always?

### 1. To know His ways.

*"Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people."*

*Exodus 33:13*

Moses was a great leader and prophet who found favor in God's sight. Yet he still desired God's presence to lead the people as they prepared to go to the Promised Land. This speaks of Moses' faith that recognizes his dependence on God and His guidance in what they were embark on.

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### 2. To experience His rest.

<sup>14</sup> And he said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

*Exodus 33:14*

God promised Moses of His presence, reassuring Israel's leader that He will be with him and give him rest. Moses experienced plenty of challenges: wandering through the wilderness, leading stubborn Israel, and becoming God's mouthpiece to a rebellious people. Still, God promised him guidance and comfort in his times of struggle.

*In life's journey,  
we face many  
challenges and  
uncertainties.*

*How does God's  
presence bring  
you guidance and  
peace during  
those times?*

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### **3. To let the world know we are His people.**

*"For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?"*

*Exodus 33:16*

Moses understood the importance and the need for God's presence with them, as they will be facing opposing nations in the land. With the Lord's presence among the Israelites, people from those nations would also know the God who called, protected and redeemed them to be His.

*The Israelites were  
God's chosen  
people, called to  
make a difference in  
their world. As Christ  
believers today, how  
can we demonstrate  
our faith in the Lord  
to others, especially  
to people we are  
trying to reach with  
His salvation?*

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# LET'S PRAY

- Ask God to help you discern His ways, plans and purpose for you in this season of your life.
- Ask God to lead you to a person whom you can pray for and encourage this week.

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# LET'S APPLY

- *Invite God's presence to guide you in the place where He has called you. (Ex., ministry, work, family, or school)*
- *Encourage everyone in your small group to always desire God's presence. Pray for each other.*

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# Marks of Being God's Children

- Have you ever used a GPS (Global Positioning System)? How reliable has it been in your experience?
- What gives your life a sense of security?

# THIS READS

<sup>34</sup> Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. <sup>35</sup> And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. <sup>36</sup> Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. <sup>37</sup> But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. <sup>38</sup> For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

## EXODUS 40:34-38

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The tabernacle had been built and Aaron and his sons were anointed and consecrated by Moses to serve as priests there. The tabernacle served as a meeting place between God and His people. God's presence in the form of a cloud filled the tabernacle with His glory. His presence was now to dwell among all the people and could be felt by every Israelite to assure them that the Lord was with them as He had promised.

# LEARN THIS

In which area of your life do you find it most difficult to obey God and why?

## How should we live our lives as God's children?

### 1. Be completely obedient to God.

<sup>16</sup> This Moses did; according to all that the Lord commanded him, so he did. <sup>32</sup> When they went into the tent of meeting, and when they approached the altar, they washed, as the Lord commanded Moses. <sup>33</sup> And he erected the court around the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work.

Exodus 40:16,32,33

God gave the Israelites His commandments to establish the terms of their covenant relationship with Him, making them a holy nation set apart for Him. But we soon see the Israelites repeatedly failing to obey the Lord. As God's children in Christ, He has given us the Holy Spirit to enable us obey Him.

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### 2. Be continually led by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>36</sup> Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. <sup>37</sup> But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up.

Exodus 40:36,37

The cloud guided the Israelites on their journey. They moved when the cloud moved and they stayed in place when the cloud stayed. They were called to follow God's presence and be led to when and where God wanted them to go. This is also an encouragement us to follow God's direction in our lives, trusting that He knows the path He has set for us.

*In what area/s  
of your life do  
you need  
God's direction  
today?*

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### **3. Be confidently sheltered under God's presence.**

*For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.*

*Exodus 40:38*

The Israelites needed reassurance of God's presence and protection as they faced challenges and uncertainties in their journey to the Promised Land. We also have challenges, difficulties, and fears, but we can find comfort in knowing that God is with us to help and protect us.

*Have you ever  
experienced a  
difficult time in  
your life and felt  
God's presence  
was with you?  
How did you  
react to it?*

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# LET'S PRAY

- Ask God to give you His direction on a specific matter that you need a clear guidance for.
- Encourage your small group to pray for one another seeking God's guidance for your lives.

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- Trust and obey God in every area of your life. Ask someone to pray with you about this.
- Commit all your plans to the Lord and allow Him to move on your behalf.



**EVERY NATION**  
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