

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to help you talk about God's word and Pastor Brian's message with friends and family. You of course can use your own questions, but we'd like to give you this tool to encourage Biblical fellowship and discipleship in your circle of relationships. *Enjoy discovering more about Him!*

"SHOW ME YOUR GLORY" | EXODUS 33 | PASTOR BRIAN

WARM-UP QUESTION:

What is something that most people wish to see that is rare or unpredictable?

"God Cancels His Trip and Inside the Tent" - (Exodus 33: 1-11)

God tells the people he has to separate from them on the journey because of their hard hearts, and they mourn. Moses speaks with God in the tent of meeting each day, "face-to-face". Both show how important connecting with God was to the Israelites. How important is connecting with God for people today? How can people value the "Blesser" and not just the blessings?

"Show Me Your Ways" - (Exodus 33: 12-17)

Moses asks God to show him His ways, to be with him, so he can finish the task God has given him, showing he goes to God when feeling overwhelmed. Why is it hard sometimes to pray when we're overwhelmed? What does God provide for those in that situation?

"Show Me Your Glory" - (Exodus 33: 18-23)

Moses is so in awe of God that he wants to see more of God's glory. How can people develop a greater sense of awe of God?

REFLECTION QUESTION:

Pastor Brian points out many people pray "Show Me Your Ways", but not many "Show Me Your Glory". When was the last time you asked God to glorify Himself?

Show Me Your Glory

I. Slide1 Announce:

A. Slide2-6 Lar: Harvest. Women's. C@R. REAL. FHC.

B. Slide7 [*See* u at the [Baptism today!](#)]

II. Intro: Show Me Your Glory. aka Visio Dei - Beatific Vision

A. Why is there no statue, death mask, or portrait of **Jesus**? We know what *Augustus Caesar* looked like & he was just before the time of Christ? (plenty of coins, statues)

B. Slide8 2 Cor.3:18 *nlt* *So all of us who have had that veil removed **can see and reflect the glory of the Lord**. And the Lord - who is the Spirit - makes us **more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image**.*

1. The reason we are **here** instead of **heaven**? We're **being transformed**.

a) When we **come to Jesus** our lives are **transformed**.

b) We **come to the cross** confessing our own inadequacy; we go away *claiming only His* adequacy. *Nothing in my hand I bring only to the cross I cling.*

2. It's been said *When the people of God, look into the Word of God, & see the Glory of God, the Spirit of God, transforms them, to be like the Son of God.*

3. Slide9 Maybe this is why **no portrait of Jesus exists**, because He desires to be seen in each of our faces/lives. (*see* 1st part of vs.)

C. **Prayer:** Lord, *may we see and reflect Your glory*, in our conversations, in our communities, in our lives.

III. Slide10 **GOD CANCELS HIS TRIP (1-6)** *Read*

A. Slide11a We have a **Need** we can't **Overlook** - *we need His presence*.

B. (1) **Depart** - God is sending the people **away from** Mount Sinai, **out into** the wilderness. They will eventually be forced to wander there for 40 yrs.

C. God says, I have good news and bad news. *I'm sending you to the Promised Land, buuuut I canceled My ticket.*

D. **Slide11b Lesson:** It's actually what a lot of people want today ... *God to give them the Promise Land (heaven) but they really don't care about Him going with them.*

1. Some do not have a **felt need** for God. **Who do you know in that category?** (someone from HS, your family, neighborhood) **but** God can reach them also.
2. We need, not just *the blessings from God* **but** the **Blesser Himself**.
 - a) *Would you want to go to heaven if God isn't there?*
 - b) *Would you want the Promise Land, and not a personal relationship with God?*
 Israel realized they didn't want the Promised Land without the relationship with God. *It's not about having your bills paid, it's not about getting the perfect job, it's not about perfect health.* Without that personal relationship with Him, ***I don't want to go!***

E. **Slide11c** So what was *the key* to Moses faith? Ex.33:11 *So the LORD spoke to Moses **face to face**, as a man speaks to his friend.*

1. **The Key?** was the close intimacy of his relationship w/God. **Moses knew God personally & intimately.** To every task Moses came out **from** God's presence.
 - a) It is told that before a great battle **Napoleon** would stand in his tent alone. He would send for his commanders to come to him, one by one. When they came in, he would **say no word but look them in the eye & shake their hand.** **And** they would go out ready to die for the general they **loved**.
 2. **Slide11d** *The secret of victorious living is to face God, before we face men*

F. **We have a Need we can't Overlook** - *we need His presence.* We must be desperate for God's presence. We sing, *I'm desperate for you.*

G. *Let's go eaves-drop on what's happening in the tent ...*

IV. Slide12 **INSIDE THE TENT (7-11)** *Read* ohel mo'ed

- A. Slide13a We have a **Privilege** we can't **Neglect** - *the ability to commune w/God*.
- B. Here we get more information about **Moses' relationship with God**. This is an *important bridge* between God's saying that *He will not go with the people* and what follows.
1. The people have *a little hope* in that, God's still speaking to their mediator
- C. **Note:** this *tent of meeting* is **not** the tabernacle (it has not been built yet). The same name will be given to it later. **This one is outside the camp, the other is dead center.**
- D. Slide13a (11) The Lord used to speak to Moses *face-to-face*, as a man speaks to his friend. A metaphor for *intimacy and accessibility*. (God as a Spirit doesn't have a *face*)
- E. We can't leave this text in the OT. Today, **you are the tent!** You take the tent wherever you go. We get to meet Him face-to-face (*i.e.* intimacy & accessibility).
- F. We have a **Privilege** we can't **Neglect** - *the ability to commune w/God*.

V. Slide14 **SHOW ME YOUR WAYS (12-17)** *Read*

- A. Slide15a We have an **assignment** we can't **Complete** - *I can't do this unless You come*
- B. **STAY WITH ME** (12-14)
- C. Once he *knew Gods way* he prayed for *God's presence to go with them* on that way.
- D. He did not pray on the basis of **Israel's obedience** to the law, but he could plead *the grace of God*.
1. So we as believers today are *already sure of God's presence*, because He has promised to *stay with us*.
- E. Slide15b **GO WITH US** (15-17)
- F. Wait Moses He said He'd go with you! **But now** Moses is making sure He will go with *THEM*.
- G. (16) **Distinct** - right now, **what made the children of Israel distinct?** They had no **land** yet to distinguish them. **No wealth, no culture, no righteousness** (golden calf) *only God with them* (same w/us - *Christ in us the hope of glory*).

H. We have an **assignment** we can't **Complete** - *I can't do this unless **You** come.*

VI. Slide 16 **SHOW ME YOUR GLORY (18-23)** *Read seeing the backside of God*

A. Slide 17a Many ask *show me Your way* but few ask *show me Your **Glory**.*

1. Moses had been given *a guarantee of God's presence* with His people, but that was not enough; he wanted *a new vision of the glory of God.*

2. And he asks "*please*" but it's an *audacious* request.

B. BE THOU MY VISION (18-23)

C. *Wait, think of what Moses has seen already seen: the burning bush. He's been to the mountain. He received the Law. He watched the waters part. And he desires more?*

1. Oh yah, a whole lot more! Do you long to see God's glory or have you seen enough? *You were made to behold His beauty.*

D. Slide 17b What is God's glory? The glory of God is all of His attributes and character on display (all that He *is & says & does*) in all of creation, including His highest creation, *us!*

1. We can define **God's holiness** as, the intrinsic worth of God. And then We can define **God's glory** as, the *going public* of it.

a) 1st, God went public with His glory **in Creation**. Ps.19:1 *The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.*

b) 2nd, God went public with His glory **in us**, His image bearers.

2. Is.6:3 says, **Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of his** what? ... not holiness, but His **glory**.

3. Slide 17c So, that is why *the highest activity of man* is to glorify God by putting Him on display (His *character & attributes*, all He *is, says, & does*).

E. ***At this time** would those who are *passing out communion* head to the back.

F. Moses receives a mere glimpse of the divine. Full exposure would be fatal, a glimpse is more than enough to give him *a sunburned face*.

G. You cannot see my face - God didn't want Moses to have a *deadly exposure* to His *radiant glory*. Moses gets to enjoy the *warmth* of the sun, but doesn't get to *stare* into it.

1. It's not because we have an **eye** deficiency, but a **heart** deficiency.

H. You shall see my back - carries the idea of *what remains*, that is, *the afterglow of the glory of God* - what was *left over* after God passed by.

I. **COMMUNION: Bread & Cup**

J. **SHOW ME YOUR GLORY** - Many of us as believers have no problem praying, *show me your Way*. But not many of us pray, *show me your Glory*.

K. I can share with you right now 100 reasons why **I don't feel** I could even ask to see God's glory, but as with Moses, *who was not a perfect man*, it was all about God's **grace** and **favor**, not because he deserved it.

1. So will you join me this morning in asking the same thing, *Please show me your glory*. (Your attributes, character, all You are, & say, & do)

L. *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God*. See Him now w/the eyes of faith, later face-to-face. Ps.17:15 *As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied with your likeness*.

M. **End:** *The Lord bless you & keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you!*

1. **Food for thought:** What if when we finally do see Him, our wonder isn't answered, but causes us to wonder even more? hmmm

N. Keywords: glory, God, goodness, Grace, hope.