

### 3c Theology Proper – God's Glory

**Read Exodus 33:12-34:8**



Charles Spurgeon once said: "*The highest science, the loftiest speculation, the mightiest philosophy which can ever engage the attention of a child of God is the name. . . of the great God whom he calls his Father.*" God's names in Scripture are more than labels—they are revelations of his covenant character. As God proclaims his name, we come to know him more intimately.

This story narrates a slice of Moses' unique experience as a prophet of God. He has pleaded with God to spare the people and continue his support and presence among them. Elated by God's answer, Moses asks to see God's glory. When God appears, Moses sees only his "back" not his "face," but he hears words of definitive self-revelation. These words reveal the nature of the God we worship.

1. What is the difference between being acquainted with someone and really knowing that person?
2. Read Exodus 33:12-23. In Exodus 33:3 the Lord threatens not to go with the people into the Promised Land because of their wickedness. How does Moses respond? (Exodus 33:12-13)?
3. Why is Moses so concerned about God's Presence with Israel (Exodus 33:14-16)?
4. Why is it important today as well as then for God's Presence to be the distinguishing mark of his people?

**5.** What does it mean that God knows Moses by name (Exodus 33:12, 17)?

**6.** What will it mean for Moses to know God by name (Exodus 33:18-22)?

Why do you think Moses desires this so much?

**7.** In what ways can we demonstrate our desire to know God?

**8.** God places limits on the extent of his self-disclosure because no one may see God and live (Exodus 33:19-23). Why do you think this is so?

**9.** Read Exodus 34:1-8. God told Moses to bring the stone tablets with him to the mountain (Exodus 34:1-4). How were the Ten Commandments a partial answer to Moses' request in Exodus 33:18?

**10.** In Exodus 34:6-7 the Lord passes in front of Moses. How is God's goodness revealed in each attribute he mentions?

**11.** In what ways does God reveal his goodness and glory today?

**12.** In response to God's glory, Moses worships (Exodus 34:8). Take a few minutes to worship God for his presence, goodness and glory.