

## A God and Moses:

### ❖ Meeting with God (Exodus 33:7-11)

- Moses met with God in the tabernacle, where he spoke with Him face to face (Ex. 33:7-11).
- A clarification: the expression “face to face” did not imply that they saw each other physically, but rather that they had a fluid dialogue (although Moses never saw God’s face).
- The relationship between God and Moses gradually intensified.
- Moses became a faithful servant of God (Heb. 3:5), an inextinguishable beacon in the darkness, and an exemplary prophet.

### ❖ Getting to Know God Better (Exodus 33:12-17)

- When God told Moses that He would not accompany the people to Canaan (Ex. 33:1-3), an interesting conversation ensued (Ex. 33:12-17 NIV):
  - (1) **God** : You are my friend and you have my favor
  - (2) **Moses** : If it is really so, teach me your way, so that I may know you
  - (3) **God** : My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest
  - (4) **Moses** : If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here
  - (5) **Moses** : If you don't come with us, how will we know that we have your favor?
  - (6) **God** : Okay, I will do what you ask, because you have my favor and I consider you my friend.
- Moses had spent 40 days with God, receiving the Ten Commandments and instructions for building the sanctuary. Now he was once again before God, interceding for the people. He seemed to know God quite well, for he spoke to Him very familiarly. In what sense, then, did he need to know Him (Ex. 33:13)? In what sense do you also need to know Him?

## B The glory of God:

### ❖ The desire to know the glory of God (Exodus 33:18-23)

- Moses asked: Show me your glory (Ex. 33:18) + God answered: I will show you my goodness (Ex. 33:19) + What God showed him was his character (Ex. 34:6-7) => The glory of God is his goodness, that is, his character.
- Thus, our “glory” is to reflect the character of God in our lives (2 Cor. 1:12; 3:18).
- When we look at the Cross, we have the greatest revelation of God's glory, his goodness, and his character.

### ❖ The vision of the glory of God (Exodus 34:1-28)

- God showed his glory to Moses the seventh time he ascended Sinai.
- The vision of God's glory proved to be a self-proclamation of God's character (Ex. 34:6-7). At this glimpse of God's love, Moses worshipped (Ex. 34:8; 1 John 4:19).
- Finally, God reiterated his covenant with Israel, and forgave the calf episode.

### ❖ The result of seeing the glory of God (Exodus 34:29-35)

- Moses had spoken with God “face to face” many times before, and until then, his face had never shone. What had changed this time? Notice, moreover, that the change persisted over the long term (Ex. 34:34-35).
- Now Moses knew God much better. His friendship had reached maturity. He had contemplated God's glory, and had been transformed by that glory.
- Echoing this episode, Paul invites us to imitate Moses and contemplate the glory of God to be transformed as he was (2 Cor. 3:12-18).
- Moses is a model that demonstrates what God can do for us when we allow him to transform our character and mold us into his divine image.