

“DRAWING NEAR TO GOD”
Moses and His Quiet Time
Exodus 33:7-34:10, 27-35
Servants’ Guide

DISCUSSION

1. Try to define what a “Quiet Time” is as a group. Spend some time describing how you do your own quiet times. (See also Luke 5:16, Mark 1:35, and 1 Corinthians 1:9)
 - *Emphasize the importance of scripture and prayer. Not just a time of venting and letting out but a time of receiving and listening to God. Receiving of strength, guidance, hope, intimacy, etc.*
 - *If godly saints such as Moses and Paul emphasize these things, how much more do we need it?*
 - *Even Jesus spent time often doing quiet time.*
2. Spending a time of daily devotion or quiet time is difficult for many people. What are some reasons it is so difficult?
 - *Busy schedule.*
 - *Forgetting.*
 - *Sometimes it's not always seemingly “beneficial” so we don't yearn for it.*
 - *Laziness.*
 - *Lack of priority.*
 - *Falling away or running away from God.*
3. Read Exodus 33:7-11. What do we learn about the purpose of the “tent of meeting”?
 - *A place where God would be present.*
 - *Personal requests could be brought before the Lord.*
 - *It was pitched away and set apart from everything else (v.7).*
 - *There was a reverence exercised because God was being encountered (v.8, 10).*
 - *Intimacy of conversation with God took place in this special time (v.11).*
 - *Joshua demonstrates hunger to be in the presence of God (v.11).*
4. Examine Moses' interaction with the Lord. What are some lessons we can learn about encountering God? (See also Numbers 12:8)
 - *Do you have a special place where you go to meet with God away from everything else?*
 - *Is there proper reverence in your time with God?*
 - *Do you really read the bible and pray as if the holiness of God is present where you are?*
 - *Do you speak to God like you are speaking with him face to face?*
 - *Do you have Joshua like desire to remain in his presence?*
 - *The most important element is the hunger and desire for God. Have you seen a glimpse of His glory like the Israelites where you desperately want more of Him?*
5. How does the time spent with God affect Moses when he comes down from the mountain and returns to the camp? (See Ex 34:6-7, 29-35; 2 Cor 3:12-18) What are some ways our life would be affected if we were to meet God daily?
 - *When we spend time with God we come to know Him more. Moses learns more of God's character – He is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining of love, and forgiving (Ex 34:6-7).*
 - *Moses experienced transformation as his face became radiant. We can experience radiance in our hearts when we daily meet with God. When you are blessed, you treat people differently.*
 - *People can experience God through our unveiled faces. We shine Christ. It's like the moon reflects the radiance of the sun, so we ought to reflect the radiance and glory of God.*
 - *It is much harder to sin when you practice the presence of God daily.*
 - *It is harder to feel depressed when you know that God is with you.*
 - *It is harder to be bitter and hate when you experience his love.*
6. Share some of the convictions you have received today. Begin to challenge and encourage one another to draw near to God daily.