

Take Home: At the very heart of worshipping God and having a relationship with Him is experiencing His presence.

One day Moses said to the Lord, "You have been telling me, 'Take these people up to the Promised Land.' But you haven't told me whom you will send with me. You have told me, 'I know you by name, and I look favorably on you.' ¹³ If it is true that you look favorably on me, let me know your ways so I may understand you more fully and continue to enjoy your favor. And remember that this nation is your very own people."

Exodus 33:12-13 NLT

The Lord replied, "I will personally go with you, Moses, and I will give you rest—everything will be fine for you."

Then Moses said, "If you don't personally go with us, don't make us leave this place. ¹⁶ How will anyone know that you look favorably on me—on me and on your people—if you don't go with us? For your presence among us sets your people and me apart from all other people on the earth."

Exodus 33:14-16 NLT

²AW Tozer answer as follow:

I venture to suggest that the one vital quality which they (men of God) had in common was spiritual receptivity. Something in them was open to heaven, something which urged them Godward. I shall say simply that they had spiritual awareness and that they went on to cultivate it until it became the biggest thing in their lives.

They differed from the average person in that when they felt the inward longing they did something about it. They acquired the lifelong habit of spiritual response. Take Home Throughout the rest of Scripture, God unfolds his plan to restore this lost relationship, a relationship that centres on his presence.

The presence of God also play a critical role in the formal covenant relationship that God makes with Israel at Mount Sinai (Exodus 19)

- o At the heart of the covenant is a threefold statement by God:
- I. "I will be your God"
- II. "you will be my people"
- III. "I will dwell in your midst"

² And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." 4 When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

Exodus 3:2-4 ESV

⁵ Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Exodus 3:5-6 ESV

¹⁷ "Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. 18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved. 19 So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do the same, you will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God's laws and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Matthew 5:17-19 NLT

⁹ And the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever." When Moses told the words of the people to the Lord, ¹⁰ the Lord said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments ¹¹ and be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

Exodus 19:9-11 ESV

¹² And you shall set limits for the people all around, saying, 'Take care not to go up into the mountain or touch the edge of it. Whoever touches the mountain shall be put to death. ¹³ No hand shall touch him, but he shall be stoned or shot;[a] whether beast or man, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain."

Exodus 19:12-13 ESV

²¹ Then the Lord told Moses, "Go back down and warn the people not to break through the boundaries to see the Lord, or they will die. ²² Even the priests who regularly come near to the Lord must purify themselves so that the Lord does not break out and destroy them."

Exodus 19:21-22 NTL