



Who is like you — majestic
in holiness, awesome in glory
working wonders?



ontrack devotions

EXODUS

JUNE 2024

MONTHLY PRAYER SHEET

"...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16

Who I Will Reach	How I Will Do It	How It Went

Other Requests	Date Answered	How It Was Answered

MONTHLY COMMITMENT SHEET

Name: _____

This sheet is designed to help you make personal commitments each month that will **help you grow in your walk with God**. Fill it out by determining

1. What will push you
2. What you think you can achieve

If you need help filling out your commitments, seek out someone you trust who can help you. Share your commitments with those who will help keep you accountable.

Personal Devotions:

How did I do with my commitment last month? _____

I will commit to read the OnTrack Bible passage and devotional thought _____ day(s) each week this month.

Church Attendance:

How did I do last month with my attendance? _____

I will attend church _____ time(s) this month.

I will attend small group _____ time(s) this month.

I will attend _____ time(s) this month.

(List any other activities you will participate in this month—Bible study, church events, etc.)

Bible Memory:

How did I do with Bible memory last month? _____

I will memorize _____ verse(s) this month.

Outreach:

How did I do last month with sharing Jesus? _____

I will share Jesus with _____ this month.

I will serve my local church this month by _____

Have you ever prayed about something for a long time without receiving an answer? Did that discourage you enough to just quit praying? If so, you might be able to identify with the circumstances in this passage. Do you remember God's promise to Abraham in Genesis (Genesis 12:1-7 and Genesis 15:1-7)? First, God promised a multitude of descendants. Second, He promised to bless the nation of Israel. Finally, He promised to lead His people to a specific land in which they would live. These chapters indicate that God was already miraculously fulfilling the people part of His promise. We also see that God was preparing to use one particular man to lead this nation to receive the land part of His promise. It had been a long time, 400 years in fact, since Jacob and his family moved to Egypt. But we can see that God had not forgotten His Word (2:24). His promise was still being fulfilled. Do you have a burden or need you have been going to God about for a lengthy amount of time? Does it seem as if He has not been listening? Keep praying and be confident He will fulfill His promise.

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 1, 2

This month, we have selected Psalm 119 to read through on Sundays. It is a chapter filled with truth about the Word of God. As you read through it, jot down the details you find. Use the chart to record your findings and to help you apply what you have read. Enjoy your journey!

VERSE**WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT GOD'S WORD****HOW IT IMPACTS MY LIFE**

EXTRA READING
PSALM 119

As you were reading today, did you find yourself at all frustrated with Moses? God appeared to him miraculously and he was afraid (as we would be). God gave him directions for his future, but Moses was concerned with his own perceived insignificance (3:11). God told Moses that He would be with him and then Moses asked, "Who are you?" God answered with authority. He gave the details of his mission, but Moses was still worried about his credibility with the people. God then gave him three miraculous signs to prove to the people that he had been sent by God. Moses came up with one more excuse, his speech. Finally, God became angry (4:14). He was angry because Moses implied that God could not overcome Moses' limitations. What about us? Do we ever question God's direction for our lives? Do we argue about what He wants us to say? Like Moses, God has a specific task for each of us, and He's promised to equip us adequately for whatever He calls us to do. It's God's ability that matters, not yours. Do your responses indicate you believe that?

SAY WHAT?

What might God ask someone to do that may cause a reaction like Moses had?

SO WHAT?

Why is it so difficult to trust God in situations like these?

NOW WHAT?

How can you prepare yourself to respond willingly when God asks you to do something?

THEN WHAT?

What personal commitment can you make in light of today's reading?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 3, 4



After reading this passage, what emotions do you think God felt towards Moses, especially in verses 22 and 23? Can you identify with these emotions in a situation you've encountered? Early in this passage, God told Moses exactly what would happen when he confronted Pharaoh. God warned him that Pharaoh would have a hardened heart and that even Israel would not immediately believe. In spite of knowing these things ahead of time, when they occurred, Moses became discouraged and questioned God. He allowed Pharaoh's godless perspective and Israel's weak faith to affect his trust in God. Hadn't God told him He would first harden the king's heart? Hadn't God given Moses tremendous reasons to trust Him? Then why did Moses struggle? We often do the same thing to God. God has told us that we will face difficulty and hardship if we take a stand for Him. He has promised to be with us and strengthen us. He has also promised that the ultimate victory is ours! We must believe and trust that He will fulfill His commitment to us just as He did with Moses. The key is perspective! The outcome is deliverance. He will do the same for us.

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 5, 6

Have you ever been asked the question, "If there is a God, why would He allow evil to exist in the world?" Part of the answer to that question is found in this passage. Having refused to listen to the Word of God, Pharaoh began to experience the hand of God against him with the first plague. But Pharaoh continued to harden his heart and refuse to listen to God. Each time we read of Pharaoh's stubbornness, we read the words "just as the Lord had said." In fact, God not only knew that Pharaoh would reject His commands, He actually caused it! Why would God cause Pharaoh's heart to become hard? God does give us a clue, if we continue reading through 7:4-5. Ultimately, God did what He did to maximize His glory. His plan was to reveal Himself to the Egyptians and the Israelites. He wanted to demonstrate His justice and His power. God allows evil in the world to reveal Himself and bring glory to His Name. The lesson for us is the lesson Moses had to learn—trust God! He alone is always in control and He always has a reason.

SAY WHAT?

In what areas do you find it difficult to trust God?

SO WHAT?

Why do you think this is so hard?

NOW WHAT?

How can you improve your awareness of what God is accomplishing in your life?

THEN WHAT?

What area can you surrender to God's total control today?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 7

What words would you use to describe Pharaoh's response to the plagues? Have you seen in your life responses that are similar to Pharaoh's when God puts pressure on you? The battle between Pharaoh's heart and God's glory intensified with the plagues of frogs, gnats, flies, disease of the livestock, boils to the Egyptians, and hail. Each time, Pharaoh hardened his heart and refused to give in. Did you notice that Pharaoh's response changed with the fourth plague? Now he attempted a compromise to dilute the consequences of his sin without having to totally relinquish control to God. First he said "Okay, sacrifice to God, but do it here." Then he said, "Okay, you can go...but not far." Compromise seems to be one of the enemy's greatest tools. He doesn't necessarily try to convince us to reject God, he just wants us to believe it's possible to have the best of both worlds. But can we give in to the world at all and still honor a holy and righteous God? God wants total submission and obedience, not compromise. He doesn't want us to try to be obedient enough to keep Him happy, but not give Him total control of our lives. With Him, it is all or nothing!

SAY WHAT?

What areas of compromise can you see in your commitment to God?

SO WHAT?

Why do those areas of compromise exist?

NOW WHAT?

List some ways you can surrender those areas.

THEN WHAT?

Which one(s) will you commit to pursue today?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 8, 9

Three more plagues: locusts, darkness, and the death of the firstborn. What new responses do you see on the part of Pharaoh and others with these new plagues? One new response is seen in the lives of the officials of Pharaoh. They were beginning to fear the Lord. With the locust plague, the officials actually begged Pharaoh to let Israel go. Nothing changed in Pharaoh's response. He was still trying to work out a deal with God. This time he offered to have only the men go, leaving the women and children behind. With the plague of intense darkness, Pharaoh allowed all of the people to go, but ordered that their flocks and herds be left behind. Does the progression of compromise sound familiar? Often the enemy attacks through our relationships. Or Satan convinces us that we can actually live for God and not surrender everything. But doesn't God require, of the Israelites and in our lives, total commitment? Is that what He enjoys with you?

SAY WHAT?

What in your life do you struggle to surrender?

SO WHAT?

How could you begin to surrender these areas?

NOW WHAT?

What person or thing will you surrender this week? How?

THEN WHAT?

Write a statement of commitment to God regarding this decision.

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 10, 11

In today's passage, we read about one of the most significant events in the entire Old Testament. Do you know why it is so important? God sent the most devastating plague, the one that ultimately broke Pharaoh's will so that he would order the release of the nation of Israel. This event was so significant that it established the celebration of Passover for all Hebrews, even today. It depicted God's power to free His people from slavery. Interestingly enough, it was the Passover feast that Jesus celebrated with His disciples before His death. Jesus revealed to them what He was preparing to do. He was going to display His power to free us from the slavery of sin and offer us eternal life through His death and resurrection. He was to become the ultimate Passover Lamb. This is really what all of the Old and New Testament are about. God provided freedom through the shed blood of His Son, Jesus Christ. Is Jesus your substitute in death and your giver of life? If not, do something about it today.

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 12

This month, we have selected Psalms 119 to read through on Sundays. It is a chapter filled with truth about the Word of God. As you read through it, jot down the details you find. Use the chart to record your findings and to help you apply what you have read. Enjoy your journey!

VERSE:

WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT GOD'S WORD:

HOW IT IMPACTS MY LIFE:

EXTRA READING

PSALM 119



The Exodus is when God's people were finally free! But the journey begins with God reminding them sternly to continue to celebrate this time through the Passover Feast. Why was it so significant for them not to forget this event? Why did God want to make sure they passed on all their knowledge and experience to future generations? Could it be that He wanted them to never forget the true message of the lamb shedding its blood for their deliverance? For us, God has also given a celebration designed to accomplish the same purpose as the Passover. We call it communion. It is designed to help us never forget Jesus' shed blood for us on the cross. Each time we participate, we are to remember what His death has accomplished in our lives. While we usually do well at celebrating communion on a regular basis in church, how are we doing personally at remembering the meaning and implications of His sacrifice for us? Are you as thankful for your salvation today as the day you accepted it? Do you continue to remind yourself of all God has done for you through His shed blood? What needs to change?

SAY WHAT?

What has Jesus' sacrifice meant in your life?

SO WHAT?

What can you do to ensure communion never gets old or routine in your life?

NOW WHAT?

How can you share your relationship with God with someone today?

THEN WHAT?

What personal commitment should you make in light of this passage?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 12

How do you think the nation of Israel felt when they left Egypt? How would they have described their God at the time of their departure? What about when they saw the Egyptian army pursuing them? True to form, Pharaoh once again changed his mind. God had hardened his heart and he pursued the Israelites with his army after they left. But God had only begun to show Himself through His mighty works. The deliverance through the sea on dry ground and the pillar of cloud providing light to Israel and darkness to Egypt served to accomplish God's purpose. God wanted the Israelites to fear and trust Him. You see, it's easy to trust God after He has delivered you, but difficult in the midst of trouble. Like Israel, we usually find ourselves terrified and complaining when we face difficult times. Yet, we often see that God had a purpose and He comes through in ways we didn't expect. We're much better off expecting great things from God than complaining in the midst of our trouble? Where do you find yourself now? Do you need to remember His faithfulness?

SAY WHAT?

What difficulty are you facing in which you can't imagine a way out?

SO WHAT?

How could God unexpectedly deliver you?

NOW WHAT?

What could He possibly want you to learn through this experience/deliverance?

THEN WHAT?

How can you commit to trusting God's work today?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 13, 14

Have you ever heard a song that you had not listened to in a long time, yet when you heard it again, you remembered every word? That is exactly why Moses had written these songs. He wanted the Israelites to remember what God had done. Most of this chapter is a song composed by Moses, recounting the Exodus and praising God for His greatness. Songs are often used to remind us of something or to teach us something. Either way, they help us hide God's Word in our hearts. You know from experience how easy it is to remember the words to songs when you hear them over and over. They become ingrained in our minds. What we feed our minds with determines what we think, which ultimately comes out in how we live. How much better would our minds work and how much holier would our lives be if we concentrated more often on God's Word? How would it affect our thinking if we committed more of His Word to memory? What would happen if we saturated ourselves with music that is full of the truth and goodness of God's Word and less with what is not?

SAY WHAT?

List the things (songs, books, people, TV, etc.) that you regularly receive input from.

SO WHAT?

Now list the things that you regularly receive Godly input from.

NOW WHAT?

How do the lists compare?

THEN WHAT?

What decisions do you need to make in light of what those two lists reveal?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 15

Of all the characteristics you have observed in the people of Israel, which one do you struggle with the most? How about their persistent unwillingness to follow instructions? The miraculous power of God continues to be displayed as God provides food and water for His people. Yet even in the midst of miracles, God's people continue to find reasons to ignore instructions and grumble. There were some who tried to collect more than they needed for one day, in order to save work for the next. They did this in spite of what God had told them. There were also those who did not collect enough and went out to look for food on the Sabbath. Why was it so difficult to obey simple instructions? After all God had done, you would think they would have listened closely. But like Israel, it is so difficult for us to obey simple instructions today. We seem to get into the most trouble by not listening to parents, pastors, mentors, teachers, bosses, co-workers, and sometimes each other. God has placed His Word and authorities in our lives to instruct and guide us for His glory and our good. We would do well to pay attention and follow directions.

SAY WHAT?

When was the last time you got into trouble because you did not listen?

SO WHAT?

What could/should you have done differently?

NOW WHAT?

What can you do to become more successful at heeding instruction?

THEN WHAT?

What kind of commitment to obedience could you make for this week?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 16

How much do we need each other? Is it possible to be successful all alone? How do you see teamwork being demonstrated in today's reading? At the end of chapter 17, Joshua led Israel to victory in battle, but not without support from the godly leadership and the intercession of Moses. Moses, as the leader, was not capable of lending all the support Joshua needed on his own. He needed support from those around him as well. Only as each person did his part was Israel successful. In light of this, who should get the credit for the victory that was won? Who was most important? The fighting general who was in the field? The person praying on the hill? How about giving it to those who helped hold up Moses' hands? Everyone involved was important and played a vital part in the victory. If any of these components were missing, Israel would have failed! Often, we fail because we do not realize how important working together in battle is. You can't fight alone. God has a role for you to play. What role could you play to be able to work together as a team? When will you get started?

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 17, 18

When you read the Ten Commandments, what ran through your mind? Did you think of God's grace in your life? While almost everyone has heard of the Ten Commandments, and most people can probably tell you at least five of them, they often do not cause people to think of the grace of God. God gave these ten laws to establish the basis of His relationship with His people. Here, He began to fulfill the second part of His agreement with Abraham. We know we are in need of God's grace because to break even one of His laws is to offend the whole law (James 2:10). But do we realize that even having the privilege of obeying His commandments is a result of grace? Look at 20:2. Before writing the Law, God established that this relationship was possible only because of what He did to deliver His people. We often look at the Bible, the Ten Commandments, and what they tell us to do as binding do's and don'ts. What they truly are is liberation—freeing us to enjoy God's blessing in our lives. If only we would learn to do it His way. Why don't you pick one of the Ten today and make it a fresh part of your life?

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 19, 20

This month, we have selected Psalms 119 to read through on Sundays. It is a chapter filled with truth about the Word of God. As you read through it, jot down the details you find. Use the chart to record your findings and help you apply what you have read. Enjoy the journey!

VERSE | **WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT GOD'S WORD** | **HOW IT IMPACTS MY LIFE**

EXTRA READING
PSALM 119

Why did God begin this section by putting emphasis on servanthood? What does that tell us? Does this passage teach us anything relevant to our lives today? God gives instructions on how to handle servants. Part of the instructions required that servants were to be set free every seventh year. However, if the relationship with their master was good, a servant could willingly choose to be a servant for life—by having their ear pierced. That mark would demonstrate that they had willingly chosen to remain a servant to their master for life. We all live our lives as servants to someone, even though we don't realize it. The unsaved serve as a slave to Satan, usually by serving themselves. The believer, however, is free to serve God—the benevolent loving Master—by choice! It's the rightness of the relationship that compels us to willingly serve God. Just like Old Testament slaves, we can mark our lives so it's obvious we are His servants. Does anyone know that you have chosen to follow God by how you live? Remember, it is a privilege!

SAY WHAT?

In what ways are you currently serving God?

SO WHAT?

Why are you doing those things?

NOW WHAT?

How could your motivation for the service you're now doing be even more pure?

THEN WHAT?

What commitment of loving, willing service can you make to God?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 21



What common problem in our society does today's reading address? How about the issue of personal responsibility? Much of this section of Scripture calls a person to be responsible for what they do. Those are words we don't often hear today. Most people are concerned about their personal rights and don't consider taking any personal responsibility. For God, it was a priority that His people demonstrate their relationship to Him by being responsible for their actions, and the consequences that follow, even if they just forgot. Doesn't it make sense that we, as God's children, should be primarily concerned with being responsible to God, to each other, and to the authorities in our lives? Just like the servant in chapter 21, who willingly gave up their freedom for the sake of the relationship, we also have to relinquish our claim to personal rights. Why not think through some of the rights you've been holding onto recently. Consider how you can replace them with responsibilities that would provide opportunities to make God more visible.

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 22, 23

Did you notice when you read this passage that while Moses was permitted to ascend the mountain, the others were restricted at various levels? The people were permitted only as far as the foot of the mountain. The elders ascended part way. Joshua went a bit farther with his mentor. Moses alone went to the top. Why did God do that? What did He want to show them by these restrictions? You may remember a similar division with the disciples. Jesus had a total of 70, but only 12 who really followed through. Three of the 12 were close, but only one, John, described himself as “the one whom Jesus loved.” We must never forget that following Jesus is about a relationship. We will grow in direct measure to the effort we put into our relationship. It has to do with the choices that we make. But notice that the closer these circles get to God, the smaller they become. An increased relationship to God will make some earthly ones diminish and, perhaps, even disappear. Maybe that is why so few pursue a deeper relationship with God. What are you pursuing?

SAY WHAT?

Which group, from either Exodus 24 or the disciples' example, most closely describes your relationship with God?

SO WHAT?

What keeps you from being where you would like to be in your relationship with Him?

NOW WHAT?

What steps do you need to take in order to get there?

THEN WHAT?

How can you begin that journey today?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 24

Today's readings relay an incredible account. Though it happened thousands of years ago, we can learn many things concerning our churches today. Moses was instructed by God to make a sanctuary, which is a dwelling place for God among His people. It needed to be built to God's exact specifications (25:9). Moreover, He instructed an offering to be taken to finance the project. Notice the emphasis on the need for willingness in giving, "from each man whose heart prompts him to give" (25:2). This emphasis on willingness is repeated in 35:5, 21, 22, 26, 29, and 36:2. Notice, too, that the gifts requested are not just material, but also gifts of time and skilled talents. Read verses 5-7 of chapter 36. The gifts were MORE THAN ENOUGH! In fact, Moses ordered the people to stop giving. Can you believe it? I'm afraid that this scenario would seem rather far-fetched in our churches today. What is the difference? Is it the vision of the people? Is it the example of the leaders (35:27)? Is it the heart condition of each individual? Maybe all of the above. What could God accomplish in your church with hearts and lives completely willing to give with nothing held back like in this example?

SAY WHAT?

How would you describe your practice of giving?

SO WHAT?

What amount of money, time or talents could/should you be giving?

NOW WHAT?

What changes need to take place in your giving habits?

THEN WHAT?

Make a commitment to give to God with a willing attitude.

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 25, 35-36

As you read today's two passages, did you experience déjà-vu? It is exactly like yesterdays experience. For now, though, consider the details of today's instructions—the ark of the covenant, the table of the bread of the Presence, and the golden lamp stand. These are three of the most significant furnishings in the Tabernacle. Why do you suppose the innermost article of the dwelling, the ark, was prescribed first? Could it be that God began inside and worked outward, to illustrate how it should be in our lives? The ark was the place where God would reside with His people. Don't you think that speaks to the fact that the tabernacle was God's idea because He desired to dwell with His people? Why then is there no ark today? Where does God dwell now? According to I Corinthians 3:16 and 6:19, He dwells in the hearts of His people. The One who is the Light of the World and the Bread of Life dwells in you! What does that do to your perspective and behavior knowing that God dwells in you? You are the place where God dwells and people can meet Him there.

SAY WHAT?

How would you describe God's dwelling place in you?

SO WHAT?

What things might need to be cleared out?

NOW WHAT?

Is there something on the throne of your heart that rightfully belongs to the King?

THEN WHAT?

What decision needs to be made today, in light of this passage?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 25, 37

What conclusions could someone come to from reading today's section? It seems to be just insignificant, pointless detail. Once again, we see specific directions carried out detail by detail. Why in the world did God have Moses record not only specifically detailed directions for building these items, but then also have him record in equal detail the actual building of them—mostly word for word. Was there a good reason for this detail? Wouldn't it be easier to just say, "They built it all according to the directions?" God wanted specifics—not once, but twice! Perhaps this should tell us something about our Heavenly Father. Maybe God wants us to know that He cares about details. He cares about specifics. He cares that we follow His directions, especially when it comes to the things in our lives that direct us toward Him. He wants us to do exactly what He says, just the way He says it. Are you committed to the details He has given? How closely are you following God's directions? Are you aware of what they are?

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 26, 27

This month, we have selected Psalm 119 to read through on Sundays. It is a chapter filled with truth about the Word of God. As you read through it, jot down the details you find. Use the chart to record your findings and to help you apply what you have read. Enjoy your journey!

VERSE | WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT GOD'S WORD | HOW IT IMPACTS MY LIFE

EXTRA READING
PSALM 119



Not only was God concerned about the details of the Tabernacle, He was also specific about those who were to serve in it. In today's reading, He instructed them on how they were to serve and what they were to wear. Reading the details about the priests should cause us to appreciate the lengths to which God went in order to dwell with His people. Not a single detail was insignificant so that a Holy God could have fellowship with a sinful people. Worship was so significant that it was designed to be the central activity in the lives of His people. Everything they did revolved around worshiping God properly. How important is worshiping God in your life? It would include not only church attendance, but praying, spending time in God's Word, being involved in community with other believers, and sharing Jesus with others. Are these things central to your life? If not, what needs to change?

SAY WHAT?

Where does worship fall on your personal priority list? How is that demonstrated?

SO WHAT?

What things show up in your life as a higher priority?

NOW WHAT?

How could you make sure God is your top priority?

THEN WHAT?

What should your next step be?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 28, 29

How worship is to be conducted and who is involved continues to be God's concern in this section of Scripture. We read of the altar of incense, the basin for cleansing, and the sacred anointing oil. Again, God's instructions are quite specific. In fact, the purpose and the use of the anointing oil are so significant that God says not to misuse it or even attempt to imitate it. Is it because the oil itself is so special? Or could it be that following God's directions are crucial? Are these furnishings and equipment holy in and of themselves, or does God make them holy? God requires holiness and He is serious about this business of preparation and worship. How much care do we take in our approach to God? Do we consider who it is we approach or the gratitude and humility we ought to have before God? Take time to approach Him in the way He deserves today. Write a prayer that indicates your understanding of His holiness and expresses your desire to please Him.

SAY WHAT?

Father, today I want you to know...

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 30, 31

With Moses gone on an extended with God, the people stray. The amazement of God's presence on the mountain has worn off and now they're looking for something else. Perhaps they have been too dependent on the man Moses. One thing they know is that they want a god they can see and perhaps control, like the ones they had seen in Egypt. The result is a golden calf. Meanwhile, Moses was seeking the favor of God and begging Him not to destroy His people. He did that in spite of God's offer to wipe out the nation. But Moses reminded Him of His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (vs13). The perspective of who God is and what He has said in His Word made all the difference between Moses and the people of Israel. Appealing to God's grace, Moses interceded for the people. Are you like these people? Has your commitment to God grown cold? Have you allowed other things to become a priority or even a god in your life? What would it take for you to repent and return to your passion for God?

SAY WHAT?

Is your commitment level to God like the people of Israel or like Moses?

SO WHAT?

What things cause you to lose sight of God and His Word?

NOW WHAT?

How can you be interceding on behalf of the people in your world?

THEN WHAT?

In light of this passage, what personal commitment can you make?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 32

Today we are privileged to witness the communion between Moses and God at its highest, most intimate level. All of Moses' life, faith, and relationship with God have been leading up to this point. In the process of these moments, Moses made three significant requests. First, he asked God to teach him His ways so that he could know God better (vs13). Wow! Here is a man closer to God than most have ever been, asking to be taught so he can be even closer. Second, he asked for assurance of God's presence with the people on the journey (vs15-16). God answered favorably because He knew Moses and was pleased with him. Now that's effective intercession on the part of a leader! Third, Moses was close enough to God (and bold enough) to ask Him to show him His glory (vs18). There is a limit to what a man can stand (vs20), but God honored Moses' request to the extent that is possible. Think about your most recent time spent in prayer. How does it compare to the level of Moses' incredible communion with God? What needs to change for you to move to a more intimate level? What should you be asking for?

SAY WHAT?

What kind of requests characterize your conversations with God?

SO WHAT?

Evaluate your conversation level with God. If a 10 is God-centered and intimate and a 1 is casual and self-centered, what number would you choose? Why?

NOW WHAT?

What number would you like to be?

THEN WHAT?

What steps do you need to take to move to that number?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 33

In what way is Moses' time with God different here than the last time he was with Him? Again, Moses spends an incredible 40 days and nights with God, and receives the second set of the Ten Commandments written by the finger of God (31:18). It also contains God's instructions regarding the future direction of the nation. However, this time when he comes down from the mountain, he is different—his face shines because he has spoken with the LORD. Is it surprising to think that being in the presence of the LORD would change a person's appearance? How about you and me? We attempt to spend time with God on a regular basis (hopefully daily), but does it change our appearance at all? Can people tell when we've spent time with God? Does it show? What difference would it make in our lives and testimonies if we actually looked like we had spent time with our God?

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 34

What is the most important job at your church? Who is the one person you could not afford to lose? What talents are the most important for your church to be all God wants it to be? Maybe a better question is why we are even considering these questions, having read the final section of the building of the tabernacle. When you think about how amazing the tabernacle was and all the amazing things that happened there, it is easy to forget those who made the structure possible. God gave to some men amazing abilities to build and craft what would become a place for people to meet God. God inspired the writer of Exodus to make sure that Bezalel and Oholiab were specifically mentioned for the skill God had given to them. They used those skills to build this amazing structure that allowed people to meet God and grow spiritually. Who are the Bezalel's and Oholiab's in your church? Have you ever thanked them for how they use their abilities to make sure church is a place you can meet God? Why not do so this week? Has God given to you abilities you need to use as these men did? How can you get started?

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING

EXODUS 38

What would it have been like to be there while these events took place? The work on the tabernacle was finally finished "just as the LORD commanded Moses." Everything was inspected and set up "just as the LORD commanded." When Moses had finished the work, God moved in and His glory filled the tabernacle. In fact, Moses could not enter because God had filled it. Do you think at that moment the Israelites understood and were glad they had followed His instructions on every detail? Now they had a place God considered worthy of His dwelling. Interestingly, at the close of the book, we're reminded that the dwelling place was still mobile because Israel was still on the move, with the glory of God in the lead. The resting places were only temporary. They were on a journey and God had a goal in mind—a home for His people. Do you realize that you are now God's temple? Even though the dwelling is temporary, God also has a goal in mind for you. Someday you will be home. Until then, focus on the journey and make it all God desires!

SAY WHAT?

Observation: What do I see?

SO WHAT?

Interpretation: What does it mean?

NOW WHAT?

Application: How does it apply to me?

THEN WHAT?

Implementation: What do I do?

EXTRA READING
EXODUS 39, 40



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A black and white photograph of a woman sitting in a canoe, smiling broadly. She is wearing a dark halter-neck top and patterned shorts. She is holding a white paddle across her lap. The background is a blurred natural setting, likely a lake or river.

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EXODUS 15:11

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