

Life Group Homework

For the week of October 1, 2017

MY STORY

- 1) What was your takeaway from last week's study?
- 2) How does wrestling with the "awe of God" impact our identity?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention?

DIGGING DEEPER

This week we will be unpacking Exodus 32:9-16. Our focus is on Moses and his response to God. Read this passage with that in mind and discuss the following questions.

Exodus 32:9-16

⁹Then the Lord said, "I have seen how stubborn and rebellious these people are. ¹⁰Now leave me alone so my fierce anger can blaze against them, and I will destroy them. Then I will make you, Moses, into a great nation."

¹¹But Moses tried to pacify the Lord his God. "O Lord!" he said. "Why are you so angry with your own people whom you brought from the land of Egypt with such great power and such a strong hand? ¹²Why let the Egyptians say, 'Their God rescued them with the evil intention of slaughtering them in the mountains and wiping them from the face of the earth'? Turn away from your fierce anger. Change your mind about this terrible disaster you have threatened against your people! ¹³Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You bound yourself with an oath to them, saying, 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven. And I will give them all of this land that I have promised to your descendants, and they will possess it forever.' "

¹⁴So the Lord changed his mind about the terrible disaster he had threatened to bring on his people.

¹⁵Then Moses turned and went down the mountain. He held in his hands the two stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant. They were inscribed on both sides, front and back. ¹⁶These tablets were God's work; the words on them were written by God himself.

- 4) From verses nine and ten, what does God want to do to the people, and why does He want to do it?
- 5) How does Moses respond to God? There are two parts to his response.
- 6) What does Moses' response teach us about his heart toward God?
- 7) What does Moses' response teach us about his heart for the people of Israel?

TAKING IT HOME

Moses is standing in the gap for the people of Israel. He is seeking God's original vision for His people. In the next section, we will be discussing more about how we are challenged to do this for our families and others. God doesn't ask us to stand in the gap for only the ones we love, He challenges us further to stand in the gap for people we disagree with and might even consider an enemy.

One of the amazing things about the Bible is how it ties together the Old and New Testament. Check out how the passage from Romans brings us back to the scene from Exodus, at the mountain of God when the Israelites are given the Ten Commandments and The Law.

Romans 13:8-10

⁸Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law. ⁹For the commandments say, "You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet." These—and other such commandments—are summed up in this one commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law.

- 8) What does Paul tell us fulfills the requirement of The Law?
- 9) Who is your neighbor?
- 10) Is there a family member that you struggle to stand in the gap for or show love to?

Matthew 5:43-47

⁴³"You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. ⁴⁴But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! ⁴⁵In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike. ⁴⁶If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. ⁴⁷If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that.

- 11) From the passage above, who is Jesus teaching us to love and pray for?
- 12) How could Jesus' instructions be considered standing in the gap?
- 13) How does God model this love for us in the passage?
- 14) What is this command a challenge for us to do?

CHAIR TIME TOOL

Read and meditate on 1 Corinthians 13 and answer the following questions.

- 15) Who in your life do you need to show this kind of love to?
- 16) As you consider the definition of love in this chapter, is there an area in your life that you need to seek forgiveness from God and another person?
- 17) Are there areas that you need to grow in?
- 18) What is your “Egypt” (taskmaster or slave mentality) that is preventing you from real freedom?

If you answered yes to any of these, my encouragement to you is to take some time and seek God’s love for you. Loving others flows from the awe of God’s love for us. Thinking back to what we studied about our identity over the last two weeks, we only find freedom at the side of Christ. We only love when we know to the deepest depths of ourselves how much God loves us.



WEEK THREE | OCTOBER 1, 2017

PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY

Text: Exodus 32-33

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. 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.” The Lord replied to Moses, “I will indeed do what you have asked, for I look favorably on you, and I know you by name.”” Exodus 33:13-14

Theme: My close relationship with God influences the lives of others.

How I walk with God influences those in my life...

- **Negative**
- **Positive**

Righteousness

- **Positional** - In Christ we are forgiven. **Ephesians 2:4–9**
- **Personal** - My personal choices and obedience to God. **Col 3:5–8, James 5:16**

In Jesus’ own words - Luke 11:5-10

Inspiring verses:

“I searched for someone to stand in the gap in the wall so I wouldn’t have to destroy the land, but I found no one. So now... I will heap on their heads the full penalty for all their sins.” Eze 22:30–31

“The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and his ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord turns his face against those who do evil.” 1 Peter 3:12

“Those who fear the Lord are secure; he will be a refuge for their children.” Pr 14:26

“The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” James 5:13–16