



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	The Mission of Moses	SPEAKER	Elder David Foo
THEME	Redigging the Well of the Brethren Church	DATE	20 & 21 May 2023

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Elder David Foo began the sermon with a story of two business owners who own similar moving companies. One business owner dreads the process of work while the other enjoys it.

Through this story, he drew a parallel to us having the joy of God's company, presence and fellowship in our lives where being able to enjoy God's presence in our lives makes all the difference in how we relate to our circumstance.

THE MISSION OF MOSES

In Exodus, Moses was to bring the Israelites out of Egypt into the Promised Land (Israel) but God arranged for the Israelites to stop at Mount Sinai where he revealed himself to the Israelites to tell them His plans for them.

At Mount Sinai, God and the Israelites entered into a covenant where God agreed to take the Israelites as his special people on Earth, while the Israelites would worship and serve only one God.

However, 40 days after the covenant was made, the Israelites broke the covenant by worshipping an idol. In return for breaking the covenant, God could have destroyed the Israelites, but God was merciful and did not withhold the promised land from the Israelites. God even offered to send an angel to drive out the enemies from the promised land. However, God said he would not go with them. (Exodus 33:1-3, 5b).

During this time of uncertainty, Moses sought the Lord (Exodus 33:7-11).

In Exodus 33:12-23, Moses made two requests to God:

1. For God's Presence to accompany Israel

In v15, Moses told the Lord that his relationship with Him is more important than the promised land and that he was willing to trade it for God's company and fellowship.

2. To personally know God more

Moses asked to know God more in order to please Him. Moses is not asking to know God more as a means to an end. Rather, he wanted to personally know God as an end in itself.

God agreed to both of Moses' requests.

Through the passage, it revealed two things:

1) The most precious gift that God has given to us is **Himself**.

Knowing Him is our greatest privilege and ought to be our highest calling.

Knowing Him is also the one thing that pleases God the most (Jeremiah 9:23-24).

Knowing God and being close to Him is the highest currency in the Kingdom of God.

There is nothing we can do or give to God that would please him more than getting to know Him.

2) God is pleased when He is with us and His Presence is with us. When we draw near to Him.

In Hosea 6:6, Elder David reminds us that God wants us to know Him more than any offerings or sacrifices that we make for his kingdom.

We may have the intellectual desire to be near and draw close to God. But how can we turn head knowledge into our hearts desire? To do so, Elder David urged us to pray and ask God for this desire, just like how Moses prayed and asked to know God more.

CONCLUSION

Our lives are different when we have God in the picture. It is not because of the guidance or strength that God will provide, but it is His company and presence that would make our lives different.

Pray and ask God for the desire to know and please Him more. When we genuinely seek Him, God will meet us where we are and answer our prayers.

QUESTIONS

1. What do you remember of Moses' request and God's response in Exodus 33? What is your personal response to Moses' request and God's response to it?

2. Elder David reminds us that God desires for us to know Him and commune with Him. Share how and what you've done in recent times to build upon your relationship with God.

3. Reflect on and evaluate your personal prayer life in 2023 - have we been praying and seeking God as a means to fulfil an end or do we genuinely desire to know God more through our various circumstances. What can we do to grow our desire for God's presence, individually, and as a CG, or as a church?