

Sunday Gathering

September 24, 2023 - Unimpressive but
Authentic, 2 Corinthians 3:7-18 - Tanner
Williams

Call to Worship - Exodus 33:18-19

"Please show me your glory" - this is the plea to God of a hundred different worship songs. It's also what Moses asks God after Moses meets Him on a mountain after the people of Israel make an idol out of gold and break their covenant with God. After Moses, enraged, shatters the tablets that held the words given to him by God for the people. Moses is asking to see God again after sinfulness was on full display.

God's response to Moses's request is this:

And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The Lord.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

Exodus 33:19

So God hides Moses in the cleft of a mountain, covers him with His hand so Moses is protected from the full weight of God's glory, and passes by him. And Moses beholds the glory of God.

When God's people ask Him for more of Himself, the answer is always yes. Even after wandering in brokenness and sin. This morning, let's invite the Lord to do his work in us today.

Let's repeat after Moses together:

Please show me Your glory. (Exodus 33:18)

Praise Him Praise Him (Lifeway)

Confession - Exodus 33-34

The glory of God makes us uncomfortable. He is utterly set apart from anything else - above everything else. It is supernatural and awesome. In fact, when Moses comes down from being with God on the mountain, his face is radiant, literally shining as a sign that he was in God's direct presence. The glory of the Lord visibly authenticated Moses as someone set apart for God's work.

But Israel's response was fear and discomfort. So much so that Moses veils his face around his friends, family, and neighbors.

I wonder then how we are tempted to avoid the glorious work the Lord has for us because it will make us look different or separate. Will you pray the underlined portions with me out loud?

Instead of walking openly in the path You have for me, Lord, I find myself wanting to compromise and blend in with the world around me. Forgive us. We know you are faithful to do this.

Would you open our eyes to see your glory? Would you make our hearts want to be filled with your presence at the expense of everything else?

Make me like You, Father, and fill me with bold love for You that shapes my steps toward authenticity.

Confession based on Exodus 33-34

He Will Hold Me Fast

Turn Your Eyes

Sermon

Come Thou Fount

I Am Set Free

Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

Benediction - 2 Corinthians 3:18

You may be seated. Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! We hope that you have experienced the welcome of Jesus.

Family Groups - We invite you to visit one of our Family Groups, which meet in homes throughout the week. We describe them as "intentional environments to be transformed by the gospel through relationships. If you would like to join one of them, there is info in the hallway, or talk with one of us, and we'll make a direct connection for you.

Giving & Visitors - Also, now is our time for giving—ushers, please come forward. If you are a visitor with us this morning, please grab a visitor card from the basket so we can get to know you more. You can give it to someone with a lanyard or leave it in your seat.

Antioch members, remember that giving is part of how we participate in God's mission. If you prefer to give digitally, visit our website or find us on GivApp.

Announcements

For everyone, here are a few ways to take the following steps:

1) Catholic Charities is expecting 100+ refugees between now and October. Catholic Charities manages the community garden and has helped several of the refugees transition to the US that take advantage of our garden, soccer ministry and food pantry. This is a great opportunity to partner and help refugees coming to our community. In the back of the sanctuary is a collection box that has some of the key items listed like sheets, towels, pillows and comforters. If you'd like to contribute you can drop items in the box or scan the QR code to order items from Amazon.

2) Young Disciples is having a fun Fall celebration on Saturday, October 14 at the Tennant's house from 5pm to 8pm. Open to every child in Young Disciples, there will be enough chaperones for all the kids but parents and siblings are welcomed and encouraged to stay as well. Food will be provided. Perhaps a few Fall activities as well. Come hang out and have fun! Please RSVP on the Facebook event.

3) Starting next Sunday October 1st at 9 AM, we will be having a Women's Bible Study in the training room. It will be a four week study on 1 John and a time to connect with the other ladies in the church. childcare will be provided for this.

We begin each gathering with a call to worship and end with a benediction, which is simply a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing.

Church, we have seen the glory of God through Christ's death and resurrection. Therefore, may you go, being continually transformed by the Holy Spirit from one degree of glory to another, and show the world the unveiled face of God's unfailing love.

Based on 2 Corinthians 3:18

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

You are sent.
