

The Presence of God

Moses tells God that he wants nothing to do with the promised land if God does not dwell with them in the land. Wow. After all those years as slaves in Egypt, you might think that Moses would do anything to get the people into the land. Yet he places a higher value on *God's presence* with the people than the *location* of the people. The land is good but God's presence is better.

If the Promised Land does not have value without the presence of God, you need to understand that your life will not reach its highest value without the presence of God. You can acquire nice things...surround yourself with nice people...pursue nice accomplishments...live in a nice house in a nice neighborhood and you will find a deep sense of emptiness without the presence of God.

How this relates to your life today: The presence of God is welcomed in our lives through everyday faithfulness. This means that everyday faithfulness in the routines of life is actually a greater indication of spiritual growth than some type of impressive performance in a difficult situation. Why? Because *most of life is lived in everyday moments*.

We are average, ordinary people who live everyday moments and we don't have God's perspective or His power. But that's exactly the point. God has what we lack. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to be God's everyday powerful presence in our lives.

Here's Moses, about to embark on a HUGE challenge that is completely out of his reach and he wants to do the right thing and make the right choices and be the right leader and God simply says...

I am with you.

Moses has no experience in leading people into a Promised Land. This is all new. He only has experience in confronting Pharaoh and making a run for it. God's words of comfort are not connected to His power but His presence. *I will be with you.*

Take comfort in this, Christian. Whatever you need to face, God is with you. If you need to walk with a rebellious child... If you need to find your way out of pornography... If you need to walk away from laziness... If you are facing a very difficult path...as a Christian, please know that God is with you and His resources are available to you.

Your call is to be faithful to the God who is with you in the everyday moments of life.

That's the **comforting** part of God's presence. The **challenging** part of God's presence is that when God is present, He is entirely present. Moses is not just asking that God's strength go with him but God's authority, holiness, purity, righteousness, perfect standard.

In saying, go with me, Moses is willing to be accountable to God.

Moses is embracing his need to be faithful to God every moment of every day.

Moses is willing to trust God and walk with God because he wants God to walk with Him.