

Make 2021 Count!

Pastor Don Brock

Use this guide by yourself, with a friend, or in a group to help you pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus this week!

Open

In this week's sermon, Pastor Don encourages us to do all that we can to make the most of 2021 by taking intentional steps to become spiritually stronger. And if we're going to follow his reminders to spend time in prayer, use our spiritual gifts for the benefit of others, share about Jesus, and confront our areas of sinfulness (among other things), one of the best things we can do in the months ahead is to build a consistent, personal time with God into our schedule. So today we'll take a look at how Moses did exactly that as he lead the people of Israel, and to get your group started let everyone share - who is the one person in the world (either dead or alive) that they would most like to spend time with face-to-face?

BIG THOUGHT

One of the best things we can do to help ourselves grow spiritually stronger in 2021 is to maintain consistent devotional times where we meet with God in a quiet place that's free of distractions.

Dig

1. Read Exodus 33:7. Where did Moses go to meet with the Lord? Why do you think it was important for it to be located far away from the main camp? Who else could use it? What does that tell us about God's desire for relationship? If you were one of the Israelites who had seen the miraculous events that God performed would you have wanted to meet with Him face-to-face? Why or why not?
2. Now read v. 8-10. What would happen when Moses went into the tent? (v. 8-9) What did the people outside do? (v. 10) Have you ever been a part of helping someone else worship God? What happened? How does Moses' example line up with Paul's words in Philippians 4:9?

3. Read v.11-13. In what way did God meet with and speak to Moses? Does this surprise you? Why or why not? And what did Moses ask for as a result of him spending time with God? (v. 13) Is it realistic for us to have similar types of expectations when we meet with God? Explain your thoughts.
4. When it came time for God to recreate the 10 Commandments (to see why read Exodus 32:19), He was even more specific about how He wanted to meet with Moses. Read 34:1-4. What distractions did He want to make sure would *not* be present? What are some things that distract you when you're trying to spend quality time with the Lord?
5. To finish, read 34:5-7. What characteristics of His nature did God reveal once Moses was ready? How did Moses respond in v. 8? Have you ever learned something about God in a devotional time that immediately inspired you to worship? Share about it if you can...

Take it Further

Talk with God and thank Him that He desires to spend personal time with you, then take out your calendar and write down consistent devotional times for the next month. You can find a Bible reading plan at www.biblegateway.com/reading-plans.

Daily Readings

Day 1: Matthew 6:6
Day 2: Psalm 63:6-7
Day 3: 1 Chronicles 16:11

Day 4: John 15:5
Day 5: James 4:8a
Day 6: Mark 1:35

Memory Verse: Exodus 34:8



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