

FACE TO FACE

GROUP GUIDE

Message Title: *Finishing Well*

Message Date: November 23, 2025

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES

We were created not only by an infinite, all-powerful God—the One who *measures the waters in the palm of His hand* (Isaiah 40:12) and *holds the endless number of stars in the sky* (Isaiah 40:26)—but by a God who is closer to us than the air we breathe. From Genesis to Revelation, God has pursued us with His love, that we might have a personal, intimate relationship with Him.

The Bible is full of stories of people who encountered this powerful and personal God. People who suffered, people who lost their way, people who longed for hope and redemption. Moses was one of these people. During this series, we'll look at several stories from Moses' life that give us a picture of these intimate, divine encounters with God. May we learn from Moses what it looks like to walk with God, face to face.

SERIES THEME VERSES

The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.

Exodus 33:11a (NIV)

Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face...

Deuteronomy 34:10 (NIV)

CONNECT

Respond to any of these to get the conversation rolling.

1. What has God been teaching you or revealing to you this week?
2. Which part of this Moses series—a topic, insight, question, maybe a challenge—has helped you walk more intimately (face-to-face) with God? Why?

PRAY

A simple centering prayer: Dear Lord, You are the giver of Life.¹ You have redeemed me.² Your love cannot be measured or stolen.³ With joy, You have drawn water from the wells of salvation.⁴ Because I have Jesus, I have life.⁵

Lord, we lay down the burdens and responsibilities of the day and turn our eyes toward You. Help us be present with You. Help us be here and nowhere else. Quiet our minds and restore our union with You. [This would be a good time to take a few deep breaths.]

We pray You'd put thoughts in our minds and stir our hearts in ways that draw each of us closer to You. Help us hear Your voice and experience more of who You really are. Amen.

Add to this your own words of prayer.

¹ Job 33:4; Acts 17:25 ² Isaiah 43:1; Hebrews 9:12 ³ Jeremiah 31:3; Romans 8:38-39; ⁴ Isaiah 12:3; ⁵ 1 John 5:11-12.

INTRODUCTION TO THIS WEEK'S STUDY

Deuteronomy 29-34 provides one of the most significant transitions in the Old Testament. These chapters capture the end of Moses' life, his final words to the people, and the passing of the baton to Joshua. For 40 years, Moses led the nation of Israel from slavery in Egypt, through harsh wilderness, and now, to the edge of the Promised Land. This was a journey that stretched him to his limits—physically, spiritually and emotionally. He began the journey unsure of his words, unsure of his worth, and unsure the people would listen. He led a people who didn't want to be led, and having spent much of his leadership life in solitude, it was clear he felt the weight of loneliness and despair. He carried a burden no one else shared. Yet, in spite of a divine calling that always felt beyond him, God continued to give Moses the strength to carry on.

While we've been looking at individual episodes in the story of Moses, this week's study provides more sweeping themes, helping us focus on the nature of God and what it looks like to be in relationship with Him. The video camera moves from ground level to a more 30,000-foot view, which is vital as the Israelites cross the Jordan River and move toward the Promised Land.

Major themes worth considering, in no particular order: Life is fragile. God is faithful. God holds together all creation. His desire for us is always freedom and life. Our time on earth is short. Relationships with God and each other require commitment and sacrifice. Our failures are an invitation to draw near to God, who is using them to write a beautiful story of redemption.

Our hope is that through this series, you're learning there is no better place to be than walking with God, face to face.

WATCH THE VIDEO

As you watch the video, listen for a statement or idea that's significant to you.

Then discuss together.

STUDY AND DISCUSSION

DEUTERONOMY 34:1-12 (NIV)

¹ Then Moses climbed Mount Nebo from the plains of Moab to the top of Pisgah, across from Jericho. There the LORD showed him the whole land—from Gilead to Dan, ² all of Naphtali, the territory of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Mediterranean Sea, ³ the Negev and the whole region from the Valley of Jericho, the City of Palms, as far as Zoar. ⁴ Then the LORD said to him, "This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it."

⁵ And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said. ⁶ He buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is. ⁷ Moses was a hundred

and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone.

⁸ The Israelites grieved for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days, until the time of weeping and mourning was over.

⁹ Now Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the LORD had commanded Moses.

¹⁰ Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, ¹¹ who did all those signs and wonders the LORD sent him to do in Egypt—to Pharaoh and to all his officials and to his whole land. ¹² For no one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

-
1. Why did God refer to the promise He made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob? How does that help you understand the significance of Moses' life?
 2. According to Numbers 20:1-13, why did God not allow Moses to enter the Promised Land?
 3. Why do you think God showed Moses the whole land if He wasn't going to let him cross over into it?

4. What are some different ways Moses might have felt as he viewed the land beyond the horizon, knowing he wouldn't be continuing the journey?
5. Have you ever given yourself to something (blood, sweat and tears) only to realize you'd never get what you hoped for? What was it, and how did that experience shape you?
6. Moses and the Israelites had been through just about every life experience together – good and bad. In the end, how does this passage describe the impact of Moses' life on the people? What words and phrases help capture the mood of those last days?
7. What insights do you gain about the importance of your own life and the role God has given you?
8. How does this passage describe God? What are some life lessons you can learn?
9. What statements does the writer make about Moses at the end of this passage? Which of these qualities are most inspiring for you?
10. God directs us to *live a life worthy of the calling you have received* (Ephesians 4:1b NIV).
 - a. What does this mean to you?
 - b. How could your life be more in line with God's calling?
11. *In the end...*
 - a. These things won't really matter:

 - b. These things will matter most:
12. Based on the past couple of questions, I feel led to...
 - a. Do this:
 - b. Let go of this:
 - c. Focus on this:

GOSPEL FOCUS

Moses is mentioned in the New Testament more than any other Old Testament character (closely followed by David and Abraham). The writers used Moses to help us understand Jesus and teach us spiritual lessons.

1. What do these passages teach you about Jesus, and what is God saying to you personally?
 - a. John 1:16-18
 - b. John 3:14-15
 - c. John 5:45-47
 - d. 2 Corinthians 3:7-11
 - e. Hebrews 3:1-6
2. Moses is like a preview of Christ (a *type of Christ*). He represents what Jesus would be like. What are some direct correlations between Jesus and the description of Moses in Acts 7?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Close your time with a minute or two of silence, quietly allowing your heart and mind to settle. Ask God what He wants you to remember from this week's study and discussion. Write down what He's saying to you. Share this with the group and pray for each other.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

*Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses,
whom the LORD knew face to face,*

Deuteronomy 34:10 (NIV)