Lesson Text: Exodus 33:12-23

King James Version (KJV)

I. SECURING GOD’S PRESENCE (Exodus 33:12-14)

12. And Moses said unto the Lord, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight.

13. Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.

14. And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.

II. SECURING GOD’S GRACE (Exodus 33:15-17)

15. And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.

16. For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in that thou goest with
us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.

17. And the Lord said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name.

III. SEEING GOD’S GLORY (Exodus 33:18-23)

18. And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.

19. And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

20. And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.

21. And the Lord said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock:

22. And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by:

23. And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.
**New International Version (NIV)**

**I. SECURING GOD’S PRESENCE (Exodus 33:12-14)**

12. Moses said to the Lord, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favor with me.’

13. If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people.”

14. The Lord replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

**II. SECURING GOD’S GRACE (Exodus 33:15-17)**

15. Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.

16. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”
17. And the Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

III. SEEING GOD’S GLORY (Exodus 33:18-23)

18. Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

19. And the Lord said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

20. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

21. Then the Lord said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock.

22. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by.

23. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”
PRACTICAL POINTS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. When we are in the will of God, we don’t have to worry about what He is doing or when He will do it for He works on His own time (Exodus 33:12).

2. A key to answered prayer is appealing to God’s grace (Exodus 33:13).

3. The presence of God in the believer’s life reveals that we belong to Him (Exodus 33:14-16).

4. The LORD desires that His believers learn more about Him as He reveals Himself in our lives (Exodus 33:17-18).

5. God’s goodness is seen in His sovereign grace and mercy (Exodus 33:19-20).

6. When we stand on Jesus who is our Rock, He will protect us and reveal Himself to us as He sees fit (Exodus 33:21-22; I Corinthians 10:4).

***The Sunday School Lesson, Union Gospel Press Curriculum; The Bible Expositor and Illuminator***