

# Glory

in the Highest

## Day One Our Response

READ Exodus 3:1-8, 10-11; 4:12-14a.

*How did Moses respond to God's presence?* CONSIDER common responses from Scripture: fear, death, awe, silence, repentance, joy, wonder, transformation. The holy and perfect presence of God can shine light into our dark places and cause us to repent and fear Him. *When have you responded to Him in repentance?* God's majesty causes us to respond in awe with joy and wonder.

THINK of a time you were in awe of God. Whatever our response, we're transformed by our relationship through His presence - sometimes just a little at a time. *How are these responses a form of worship -- the knowing of God as He truly exists and responding to Him as He has revealed Himself to be?* PRAY for awareness of the revelation of God's presence in your life.

## Day Two The Presence

READ Exodus 33:12-15.

Moses felt alone and overwhelmed by the responsibilities God gave him. Instead of complaining, Moses looked forward and asked, *"What do I need to know to do a better job? How can I know You more? How can I continue to please You?"* Moses wasn't willing to go forward without God's presence in his life, and God reassured him he wasn't alone. *When have you felt alone and overwhelmed? How can the power of God's presence give us rest, assurance and strength to move forward?*

If you're currently going through a difficult time, stop and talk to God: *"Please be present in my life." "Help me to know You more."* *"Lord, what are You teaching me?"* PRAY this for a friend in need also.

## Day Three Friend of God

READ Exodus 33:7, 10-11 using the PICTURE IT Bible study method.

IMAGINE the awe and mystery of the glory of God in the form of a cloud which descended on the tent of meeting and became as a man who speaks with His friend face to face. *How do you think Moses felt as he approached the tent of meeting? With Anticipation? Trepidation? How would you feel?* Scripture says they met as friends. The dictionary

describes a friend as "a person known well to another and regarded with liking, affection, and loyalty; an intimate; an ally or a supporter."

In light of the definition and using the PERSONALIZE IT method of Bible study, list ways in which God is your friend. *How does that make you feel?* PRAY for God to help you respond to His friendship in such a way to allow you to worship Him fully.

## Day Four The Back of God

READ Exodus 33:16-23. IMAGINE this scene.

What a magnificent description of God's presence! Moses boldly asked to see the glory of God. He didn't know what he was requesting, but God did. And God also knew Moses couldn't handle His full glory, so instead He gave Moses a sampling of it.

REFLECT on a time you asked God for something but realized He had hidden you in a cleft and covered/protected you. Often it's in hindsight we become aware of His presence in our lives. And it's *only* in hindsight we recognize that we couldn't have fully handled what we asked for.

*Can you relate to this?* Even so, His presence is with us, and a sampling of God is better than nothing at all. PRAY for God to show you, in retrospect, where His glory has been present in your life and when His hand has covered you.

## Day Five The Face of God

READ Matthew 17:1-8.

REFLECT on the majesty of God in this picture. The glory and presence of God transformed Jesus so that His face shone like the sun and He became as white as light. At a time when homes had only small windows to let in sunlight and only lamp light in the evenings, Christ's radiance must have shocked the disciples. They had nothing which to compare it. When the presence of God surrounded them in a bright cloud, they fell to the ground in terror. Even when the power of God terrifies us, Jesus comes to us and says, *"Don't be afraid."* We need only to look to the latest storm or earthquake to see examples of this. Our relationship with Jesus can transform our fear into peace. *How has Jesus transformed you?*

THINK of the times God has given you peace in the midst of your fears, healed your spirit when you were hurt, given you a heart for the lost and broken, or given you joy during difficult circumstances. PRAISE Him for showing you His radiant face. THANK Him for His presence. WORSHIP Him fully.