



# **EXODUS**

**life in the  
wilderness**

Have you ever been getting  
ready for a trip  
and then someone who was  
supposed to go on the trip says,

**"ACTUALLY,  
I'M NOT GOING..."?**

**Because of the Israelites sin  
and rebellion, God declares that  
His presence will not go with them.**

**BECAUSE OF YOUR SIN,  
HAVE YOU EVER ASKED:**

**Am I really forgiven?  
Is God still with me?  
Have I gone too far?**

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Leave this place, you and the people you brought up out of Egypt, and go up to the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’<sup>2</sup> I will send an angel before you and drive out the Canaanites, Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.<sup>3</sup> Go up to the land flowing with milk and honey.

**EXODUS 33:1-3**

But I will not go with you, because you are a stiff-necked people and I might destroy you on the way.”

**EXODUS 33:3**

One of the main purposes of the exodus was so that God and His people could dwell together.

<sup>4</sup> When the people heard these distressing words, they began to mourn and no one put on any ornaments. <sup>5</sup> For the LORD had said to Moses, “Tell the Israelites, ‘You are a stiff-necked people. If I were to go with you even for a moment, I might destroy you. Now take off your ornaments and I will decide what to do with you.’” <sup>6</sup> So the Israelites stripped off their ornaments at Mount Horeb.

## **EXODUS 33:4-6**

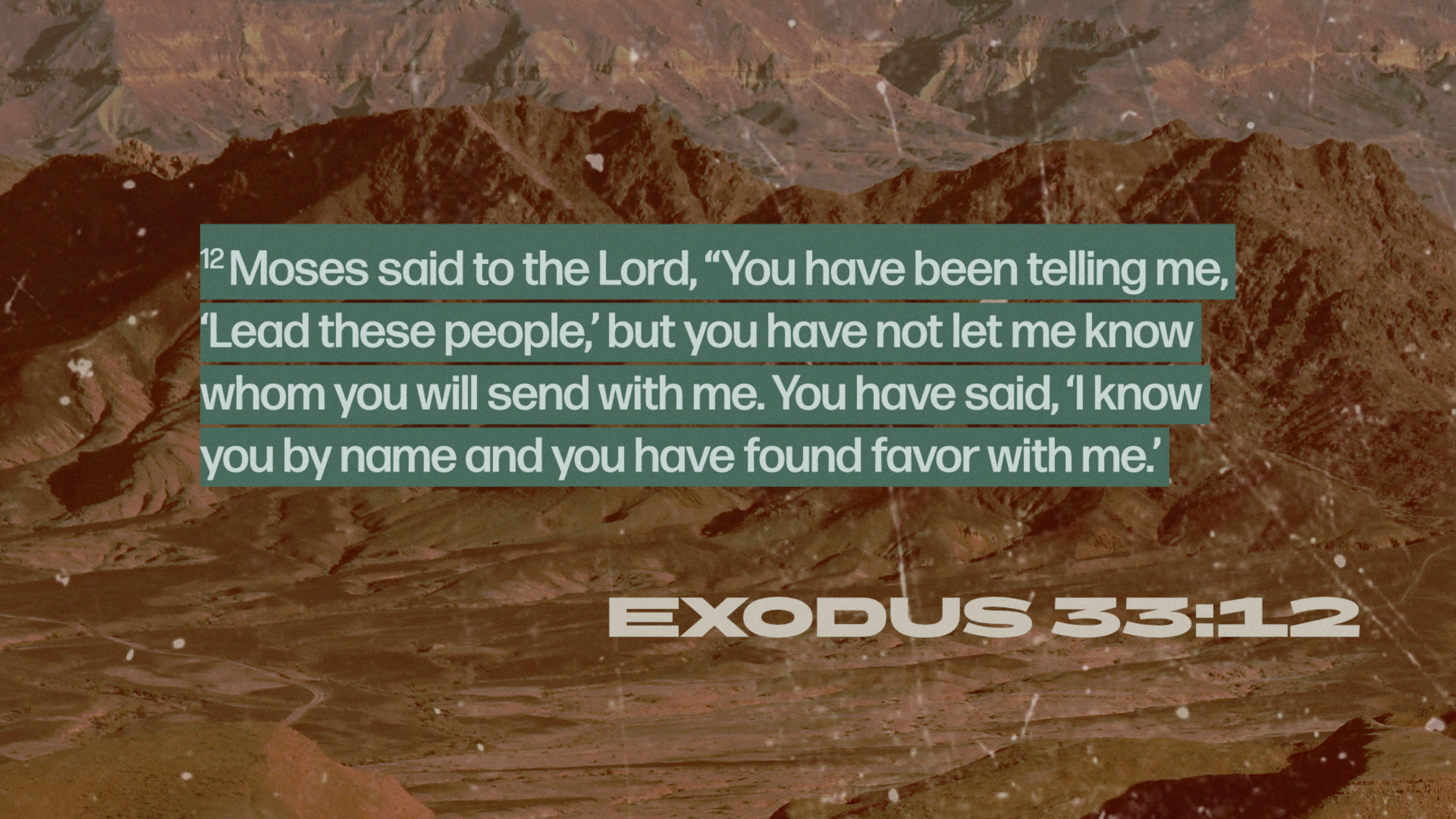
**The people are beginning to feel the weight of their sin and respond with repentance (turning) to God**

<sup>7</sup> Now Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp some distance away, calling it the “tent of meeting.” Anyone inquiring of the LORD would go to the tent of meeting outside the camp.<sup>8</sup> And whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people rose and stood at the entrances to their tents, watching Moses until he entered the tent.

**EXODUS 33:7-8**

<sup>9</sup> As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stay at the entrance, while the LORD spoke with Moses. <sup>10</sup> Whenever the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance to the tent, they all stood and worshiped, each at the entrance to their tent. <sup>11</sup> The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent.

**EXODUS 33:9-11**



<sup>12</sup> 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.’”

**EXODUS 33:12**

<sup>13</sup> 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.”

<sup>14</sup> The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

**EXODUS 33:13-14**

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. <sup>16</sup> 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?”

**EXODUS 33:15-16**

**What makes God's people different?**  
**It's the presence of God among them**

**<sup>17</sup> 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."**

## **EXODUS 33:17**

**God says he will go with the people because God is pleased with Moses**

**That truth points us to an even greater confidence in our relationship with Jesus**

<sup>18</sup> Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.” <sup>19</sup> 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.

**EXODUS 33:18-19**

<sup>20</sup> But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live." <sup>21</sup> Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. <sup>22</sup> 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. <sup>23</sup> Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."

**EXODUS 33:20-23**

# Why is God revealing himself in this way?

The people do not need a demonstration of power or strength;  
they need to know that God is good.  
He is compassionate, merciful, and faithful,  
even though they are sinful.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... No one has ever seen God; God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

**JOHN 1**

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature

**HEBREWS 1:3**

**When you question and doubt  
if God is still present in your life after sin...  
look to the glory as revealed in the risen Lord Jesus.**

<sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies <sup>34</sup> Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

**ROMANS 8:33-35**