



GROUP ICE BREAKER

What is one characteristic you received from your family that you want to keep, and which one do you wish you could change?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will keep running.
- I will persevere in prayer.
- I will ask someone to join my little cloud of witnesses.
- I will speak words of encouragement to others.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

In Exodus 32, Moses exemplifies faithfulness and doing the right thing in the midst of a crisis, something we desperately need in our day. In every area of society we need more people who will say, "I will be faithful to God and do what's right no matter what the cost." I believe this is what God is calling us to, no matter who we are. The differences between faithfulness and unfaithfulness is highlighted when Moses and Aaron are confronted with a battle. The first difference is that faithful people embrace responsibility. Moses accepts responsibility for the problems of others, problems he didn't even cause. And we desperately need people in our world who will stop making excuses. The second difference is that faithful people constantly champion core values. We're prone to slip from core values over time, so our values have to always be reviewed and renewed. If I asked you right now to name five values that you're building your life on, could you list them? Our culture has three main values, power, pleasure, and possessions, and Moses made three decisions to relinquish these values. The third difference is that faithful people have a high level of commitment to people, but a low need for approval. If you want to be faithful to God you will disappoint some people. But when those defining moments come, don't shrink back, follow the example of Moses.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Begin by reading Exodus 32:1-10.

1. God tells Moses that "your" people have become corrupt. Why wouldn't God claim the people as His own? How does Moses' response indicate his choice to accept responsibility for the people?



EXTRAORDINARY

A CRISIS REVEALS WHAT'S INSIDE

Matt VanCleave

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CONT)

2. Moses accepted responsibility for the problems of others, problems he didn't even cause. He made their problems his own. Where do you see problems around you that God may be calling you to step up and take on as your own?
3. Can you list five values that you're building your life on? Share with the group one or two of your values and why you choose them.
4. Matt challenged us to ask ourselves, "Should I invest in the here and now, or should I invest in the things that are going to outlast my life?" What conclusions did you come to about the investments you're currently making?
5. Read Hebrews 11:24-26. Moses gave up what most of us spend our entire lives trying to get - power, pleasure, and possessions. Why do you think he did? Why do you think that's so hard for some to do?
6. The truth about faithful people is If you want to be faithful to God, you will disappoint some people. Is that a struggle for you? Why or why not?
7. Read Exodus 32:30-32. Moses is ready to go all the way to the end of the line for people who rebelled against God and him. Why would Moses ask God to punish him instead? How far are you willing to go for the obstinate, complaining people in your life?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will keep running.
- I will persevere in prayer.
- I will ask someone to join my little cloud of witnesses.
- I will speak words of encouragement to others.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Exodus 32:1-12
- Exodus 32:21-24
- Hebrews 11:24-26
- Exodus 32:30-32