

# Going Deeper - Weekly Sermon Discussion Guide

## Intimacy with God - Justin Mann

July 4, 2021



**Question:** What was your takeaway from Pastor Justin's message? What spoke to you and stayed with you?

Pastor Justin explored Moses's relationship with God. Moses is considered by many as Israel's greatest prophet; yet Moses was unsure of himself *and* of God. He had a jaded past growing up as an outsider to his people and religious community and was a murderer; living as a fugitive in Midian when God called him. Moses protests that he is the wrong guy to send. We probably all would if we had Moses's past. Furthermore, Moses asks God who is He anyway... and God identifies Himself. Remember he was raised in Egypt that had many gods. This is when God gives his name to Moses. The famous "I Am who I Am" or Yahweh statement.

When God calls Moses to lead Israel out of Egypt, Moses is living in Midian. Recall how Pastor Justin contrasted Moses's gradual faith to David's immediate faith. Moses's faith journey goes from zero to one who speaks to God 'face to face'. It is a complete mystery to me why God chooses to use who He does .... Moses is a great example of God being able to use anyone!

### So Consider:

- Think of other unlikely characters God uses. Contemplate how God deals with each of them individually and differently.
- What is the one objection of Moses that we are told God becomes angry? List all the objections Moses gives to Yahweh.
- How do you understand your responsibility in being a friend of Jesus?

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Moses made excuses and pushed back when God called to him from the burning bush. This has often implied that Moses had such a great and intimate relationship with God that he easily engaged with (and argued with) God as one would a brother or sister. Pastor Justin stated that condor does not equal trust, and Moses' voiced reluctance and resistance does not suggest a close relationship, but more likely a new, untested relationship.

God met Moses where he was in his doubts and fears. He brought him to the next step in trust and throughout the book of Exodus we see the progression of closeness and trust that develops between the two. The journey through the desert was also a journey in the growing relationship between Moses and God.

### Share your thoughts:

Draw some parallels between the journey of your relationship with God to the one Moses wrote about his relationship with God. Identify a beginning and share your understanding of your walk and the ups and downs of your trust in Him.

### Take Action:

This week, engage in an intentional discussion with God about how you see your relationship with him and ask him where he wants to go with it. Ask him each day if there is something you can do for him to bring him glory and reflect his righteousness.

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*If you would be interested in joining the writing team for Going Deeper please contact Pastor Linda.*

