

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Now that we have officially finished our series on Moses, what is one characteristic of Moses that you relate with most?

Read Exodus 32:1-4

3. What did Aaron ask the people to bring him? Going back to Exodus 25:1-9, what was the intended purpose of the gold and other materials that they had?
4. The people demanded Aaron to make "gods" for them to worship...In what way are people still like this today?
5. What are some "gods" that people worship today?
6. Do you believe it is in human nature to worship something/someone? What are some examples of this? Are we really that different today?
7. Aaron's main issue was that he didn't know God intimately like Moses did. In your opinion, what are some ways that a person gets to know God intimately?
8. In what way does knowing God intimately impact your life, your decisions and your relationships?
9. Why should a person strive to know God more intimately?

Read Psalm 24:3-4

10. What does it look like to have "*clean hands and a pure heart*"? Why is this something Christians should strive for?

Read Exodus 32:5-24

11. Why do you think Aaron, in verse 5, built an altar and announced the festival?

12. In verses 7-8, God is so upset with the Israelites, what does he say to Moses about them?
 - a. God refers to the people as “YOUR PEOPLE whom YOU BROUGHT...” Meaning, God gives them over to Moses. Why would God give them over to Moses?
13. Describe what happens in verses 11-14...Why is this significant? Does God change his mind?
14. What does this say about the power of prayer?
15. What happens in verse 19 to the tablets?
16. What does the broken tablets represent?
17. What does Aaron say to Moses when he is caught?
18. What are some “golden calves” in your life that you need to get rid of?
 - a. What things are you allowing into your life that are keeping you from growing in your walk with God?

Application

Below are some of the points or quotes shared in the message.
Discuss how they apply to your life.

- When you know who God is, your perspective of who you are changes. Your focus shifts from “what can I do on my own?” to “How is God going to use me in spite of my weaknesses?”
- Be careful what you give attention to...It is in our nature to worship...And it is far too easy to worship the wrong things.
- It’s easy to have faith and trust in God when circumstances are easy...It’s in the challenging moments that we discover how strong our faith really is.
- There is no higher calling in our lives than to know God intimately.
- TRUSTING IN GOD DOES NOT MEAN THAT GOD WILL WORK
- EVERYTHING OUT THE WAY YOU WANT IT TO. TRUSTING IN GOD MEANS CONTINUING TO LOVE AND TRUST HIM, EVEN WHEN IT DOESN’T.
- “God first seeks DEVOTION to Him in the hidden place. Worship when no one else is watching.” - Matt Redman