



The Temple

GLORIFYING GOD IN YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE

... YOUR BODY IS A **TEMPLE** OF THE *HOLY SPIRIT*...

THEREFORE **GLORIFY GOD** IN YOUR BODY.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:19–20

LAURIE COLE

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Dedication

To my beloved husband, Bill

You selflessly lead our family.
You constantly encourage and inspire me.
You consistently glorify God in all that you do.
Because you are a man of honor,
I honor you by dedicating this book to you.
I *love* you.

Acknowledgements

I think my dear friend, Nancy Campbell, said it best: *Every birth is different, and so is every child.* She made that statement after she'd heard of my struggle to “carry” and “give birth” to this (my second) Bible study. God used Nancy's wise words to comfort and encourage me throughout the writing process—bless you, beloved friend.

Now, as I joyously “deliver” this Bible study to you, dear sister, I want you to know about the many “midwives” (and some wonderful men, too) who selflessly assisted me throughout the birthing process:

Janet Valentine—My beloved friend and partner in ministry, Janet amazes me with her gifts of administration and leadership, blesses me with her positive, joyful spirit and fans my faith to follow God to parts unknown.

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About the Study

This workbook is an in-depth, topical Bible study. It is designed to enable you to “dig-in” to God’s Word and experience the joy of discovering truth as the Holy Spirit tutors and teaches you. To facilitate your sensitivity and dependence upon the Spirit, each day you will be encouraged (through a verse from the Psalms) to begin your study in prayer. At the conclusion of each day’s study, you will be instructed to record any insights the Holy Spirit has given you.

A good translation of the Bible will be essential as you do this study. The *New International Version*, the *New American Standard Bible*, the *King James Version*, or the *New King James Version* are all very accurate translations and are highly recommended. In this study, the author will primarily use the *New International Version* and the *New American Standard Bible*.

About the Author



For over twenty years Laurie Cole has witnessed the life-changing, heart-transforming power of God’s Word at work in the lives of women of all ages—including herself!

Laurie was reared in a strong Christian home and became a Christian at an early age. But in her early twenties, God began testing and teaching her in brand new ways. As a result, she learned the importance and priority of loving God most and seeking Him first.

Because of a deep hunger to know God and His Word—and with no idea about how her entire life was about to change—Laurie enrolled in an in-depth women’s Bible study when she was 27 years old. Encouraged by the older women who led the study, Laurie received training and eventually began leading a group where God affirmed His call upon her life to teach.

Now, more than twenty years later, Laurie has taught dozens of Bible studies, and has spoken at numerous women’s events and conferences. She has also written two in-depth Bible studies for women: *There Is A Season: Experiencing Contentment in Every Season of Life* and *Beauty by The Book, Becoming a Biblically Beautiful Woman*. Because she believes seeking Christ first is the key to experiencing a life of true purpose, Laurie founded **Priority Ministries** to encourage and equip women through Bible studies, teaching, and other resources.

A minister’s wife, Laurie and her husband, Bill, serve the Lord at Sagemont Church in Houston, Texas, where he is the Associate Pastor of Worship and Praise. They have been married 30 years and have been blessed with three awesome sons, David, Kevin, and J.J., one beloved daughter-in-law, Stephanie, and two absolutely glorious grandchildren, Ezra and Juliette.

Contents

WEEK ONE	GLORY!	3
WEEK TWO	SHINE!	27
WEEK THREE	DETAILS, DETAILS, DETAILS!	51
WEEK FOUR	SYMBOLS THAT STILL SPEAK	69
WEEK FIVE	MATTERS OF THE HEART	95
WEEK SIX	GREATER GLORY	119
WEEK SEVEN	THE GLORY OF THE CROSS	143
WEEK EIGHT	GOD'S TEMPLE TODAY—YOU!	163
WEEK NINE	GLORIFYING GOD IN THE SPIRIT	179
WEEK TEN	FUTURE GLORY	201
ADDENDUM	A CHANGE OF HEART	221
NOTES		223

Introduction

There are certain sermons we never forget. Over twenty years ago, I heard one such sermon. It was entitled *What to Say When You Don't Know What to Say*, and it was delivered by Ron Dunn, a godly preacher who had grappled with that subject many times—just as you and I have. Ron is in heaven now, where all of life's questions have been eclipsed by the glory of God's presence. Yet even after all these years, I clearly remember the primary text of his memorable message:

Now My heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name.

—John 12:27–28

In the hours preceding His death, as Jesus sought to express His troubled heart in prayer, He asked this honest, transparent question: “what shall I say?” His answer to that question was, “Father, glorify Your name!” In Ron Dunn's excellent exegesis of this passage, he explained these four, brief words of Jesus—“Father, glorify Your name”—provide a way for us to pray within God's will, even when we are grappling with God's way. Though I heard that sermon only once long ago, its truth has ministered to me many, many times since.

“Father, glorify Your name.” Through the years, I've learned that short, submissive prayer has a broader, wider application. Far more than just a prayer to be offered during days of uncertainty, “Father, glorify Your name,” should be the *primary, ongoing prayer of our everyday life*. Why? Because we are God's temple, and glorifying God is the primary purpose of our life:

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

—1 Corinthians 6:19–20 NASB

Although you may live an ordinary, everyday life, *you* are no ordinary, everyday woman. You are God's temple and you have the supernatural ability to “glo”—to reflect the very glory of God. In fact, that is God's greatest goal for your life.

“Father, glorify Your name!” Immediately after Jesus prayed that prayer, the scriptures record God's response: “Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and will glorify it **again**’” (John 12:28).

Hours later, on Calvary's cross, God *was* glorified—*again*.

Dear sister, as you begin this study, I'm praying God will use it in such a way that He'll be glorified again, and again, and again. “*Father, glorify Your name.*”

Your sister,

Laurie

The Temple: GOD'S GLORY VS. SELF GLORY OR GET OVER _____

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

—1 Corinthians 6:19–20 NASB

This verse answers the _____ of life:

1. _____ am I? I am _____ of the Holy Spirit.
2. _____ am I? I _____ belong to myself; I _____.
3. What is my _____? I am _____ to _____.

This study will enable you to answer two more very important questions:

1. What does it mean to _____?
2. How can I _____ in my _____?

Chapter One: The Story of _____:

1. The _____ of man and woman. *Gen. 1:26–28*
 - * _____ with God.
 - * Oneness with _____.
 - * Oneness in _____
2. The _____ of man and woman. *Gen. 3:1–6*
 - * Desire for _____.
 - * Desire for _____ apart from _____ = _____
 - * RESULT: The desire for _____ resulted in the _____ of _____.

The Seven Deadly Sins of Women

1. Self _____ *says: _____
 - * constant need to _____ and _____ the offenses we've suffered.
 - * choice to maximize _____ and minimize _____.
 - * it is the opposite of _____.
2. Self _____ *says: _____
 - * constant need to focus on _____ I _____.
 - * choice to maximize my _____ and minimize the _____ of others.
 - * it is the opposite of _____.

INTRODUCTORY WEEK LISTENING GUIDE

3. Self _____ *says: _____
*constant need to be _____, _____, or positioned so that others can see how _____ we are.
*choice to do _____ so that we will look _____.
*it is the opposite of _____.
4. Self _____ *says: _____
*constant need to _____ for ourselves everything we can get even if others are _____.
*choice to be a _____ instead of a _____.
*it is the opposite of a _____.
5. Self _____ *says: _____
*constant need to spend inordinate _____, energy, thought, and _____ on our _____.
*choice to focus more on the importance of how we appear _____ than on how we appear _____.
*it is the opposite of _____ because it is _____.
6. Self _____ *says: _____
*constant need to live in a _____ of _____ and _____.
*choice to beat ourselves up constantly over _____ and _____.
*it is the opposite of _____ because it is _____ in God's forgiveness.
7. Self _____ *says: _____
*constant need to _____ ourselves as being _____.
*choice to believe our _____ and perfections have made us _____.
*it is the opposite of _____ and a _____ spirit.

How can we get over _____ so that we can _____?

1. By accepting the _____ of God through the _____ of Christ's _____.
Rom. 5:8,12,19
2. By daily emptying _____ of _____ and by presenting our bodies to God as living sacrifices. *Rom. 12:1*
3. By living with a _____ mindset.

RESULT: Restoration of _____ with God and the ability to _____ God.

*Before you can ever be _____ with His glory,
you must first be _____ of self.*

It's time for us to _____.

The Temple: GLORY!

Fame and fortune are the twin goals of an ever-increasing number of Americans every year. In fact, I think celebrity and wealth have become national obsessions. To prove my point, I present to you the following evidence: the current craze and rising popularity of reality TV shows and the countless numbers of people who, despite the risk of national humiliation, willingly and enthusiastically compete on these programs.

And I'll be honest. I have a little firsthand knowledge about reality shows. When my husband Bill and I are in couch potato mode, one of the programs we enjoy watching together is a reality show that has become a nationwide phenomenon. The show is *American Idol*. Millions of Americans tune in each week to watch a parade of individual contestants sing and perform before a panel of brutally honest judges in their quest to achieve stardom and its monetary rewards.

As each season of *American Idol* begins, the pool of talent is broad and vast. But despite the enormous number of super-star wannabes, what amazes me is just how few of them have the intangible yet distinct characteristics that will ultimately propel them to stardom. The judges on *American Idol* call it "star-quality," "self-possession," "presence," and "the it factor." It's what separates the singers from the stars. There are thousands of good singers, but only a handful of them possess the essential yet elusive qualities that set them apart from the crowd.

Even in today's celebrity-obsessed culture, stars are a rare commodity. In my entire lifetime, I don't think I've ever known or even met one single star. But I have met many individuals who possess some very tangible and distinct characteristics that literally set them apart from the crowd. These people are not "self-possessed," they're Spirit-possessed. The "presence" they exude isn't the result of their own perfect poise, but is instead the pristine presence of God in their lives.

Just who are these remarkable people? I'll tell you who they are. They're ordinary men and women who have been chosen and set apart by God in an extraordinary way. They are those rare, radiant Christians who glorify God in their everyday lives.

As Christians, we have been called and divinely enabled to glow like stars, in a sense, for God. We have been created to glorify our Creator. But unfortunately, just as there are thousands of good singers who fail to become an *American Idol* because they lack "star-quality," there also are thousands of Christians who fail to glorify God because they do not allow the light of Christ to glow within them. And glorifying God is what separates the Christian from the Christlike.



THIS WEEK'S
KEY PRINCIPLE:

*We glorify
God in our
everyday lives
by desperately
seeking Him,
and by daily
depending
upon Him.*



GLORY!

I believe God has given each of us a stage—our everyday lives—so that we can perform before an audience He has hand-picked for us—our family, friends, co-workers, and everyone whose life intersects ours—in order to make Himself known in a way that brings Him glory. Jesus said it like this: “let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).

Reality shows will come and go. Most of the winners and the stars they produce will flicker and fade, as will the fortunes they gained. But the final reality is this: One day we will all stand upon the most important stage of all, but we will not perform or compete. Instead we will face an audience of One, and that One will judge us according to the performance we gave during our time on earth. All that will matter then is whether our brief, earthly life glorified Him in an eternal and everlasting way.

Eternity, the unseen reality—more real than any reality show—is what really matters. God’s reward—more precious than earthly fame and fortune—is the goal we must seek. So, from this day on, let’s commit to giving God the performance of a lifetime by glorifying Him in our ordinary, everyday lives.

Simply put, my sister, *you glo, girl!*

— ❧ Day One ❧ —



As you begin the very first day of this study, I want to encourage you to begin in prayer. Prayer is often the most neglected area in our spiritual lives. And in a study like this, it’s easy to just grab your Bible, open your workbook and jump right in and do your homework. I know. Been there, done that myself. But I’ve learned what a **big** difference even a **little** prayer can make.

To encourage you in your prayer life, I’ll begin each day of this study with a few words of exhortation and a brief reading from the Psalms. So still your heart, dear sister, for the first few moments of your study each day and enjoy some fellowship with your Father in prayer.

1. This week you will begin the process of discovering what it means to be a temple that glorifies God. Before you begin your study, please read the following Psalm, then prayerfully ask God to make praising and glorifying Him an ongoing, ever-growing reality in your life.

*I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart;
I will glorify Your name forever.* Psalm 86:12

2. The key verses for this study (1 Corinthians 6:19–20) are printed for you. Read and begin memorizing these verses.

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

—1 Corinthians 6:19–20 NASB

3. Please personalize 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 by filling in the blanks in the paragraph below.

My body is the _____ of the Holy Spirit who is _____ me and has been given to me from _____. I am not my _____, because I have been _____ with a price. As a result, I am to _____ in my body.

4. As Christians, we are God’s temple. Does that truth awe and confound you? God lives within us. When I think about that, it overwhelms me. It humbles me. And yet, at the same time, it makes me want to jump up and down! My sister, we are *God’s temple!* Take a few moments to let the truth of 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 sink deep into your heart and mind. Meditate upon that verse, then respond as the Spirit leads you—even if that means you have to get up out of your chair and jump for joy.
5. As God’s temple, we have a very high calling. That calling is to glorify God. In the weeks ahead, we will be learning how to glorify God through our daily lives. But before we go any further, we need to take a look at ourselves and examine the various components of our lives. On the following chart, please honestly describe how you would currently define or describe yourself in each of the categories listed.

Defining Myself:

<i>My personality</i>
<i>My spiritual life</i>
<i>My roles and responsibilities</i>
<i>My relationships</i>

GLORY!

<i>My physical body</i>
<i>My successes</i>
<i>My failures</i>
<i>My current joys</i>
<i>My current challenges</i>
<i>My possessions</i>

6. The categories on the chart you just completed represent the many components that make up most of our lives. Very often we define ourselves by one or more of these categories. As you review your chart, please list (in order of their influence) the top five categories that most influence and define who you are right now:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

7. Now let's briefly look at God's perception of us. How does He define and describe us? Please read the following scriptures. Note how God defines you and how and why He created you.

a. Psalm 8:3–5

- b. Isaiah 43:7
- c. Ephesians 2:19–22 (This is how God sees His people, the church.)
- d. 2 Thessalonians 2:13–14
- e. 1 Peter 2:9

8. Finally, take what you've learned today before the Lord—especially your top five list (from Question 6). Ask Him to show you whether you are glorifying Him in these key areas of your life. Please record any insights He has revealed to you today.



— *Day Two* —

1. God is so good to us! And today's Psalm is a beautiful reminder of His goodness. After you've read the Psalm, please spend a few minutes in prayer thanking Him for the light, protection, grace, and glory He has given you. Ask Him to show you how to glorify Him through your life today.

*For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
The Lord gives grace and glory;
No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
Psalm 84:11 NASB*



In the scriptures you studied yesterday, you learned that you are God's creation, possession, and temple, and you are called to glorify God. But **what does it mean to glorify God?** That, my sister, is the most important question of this entire study, and that is where we'll begin our study today.

As I began my research to prepare to write this study, one of the first things I did was to investigate the biblical definition of the words "glory" and "glorify." For this study, we'll be using the definitions from *Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Nelson's definitions are complete, accurate, and easy to understand. But most significantly for us, these definitions will help us answer the **big** question: **what does it mean to glorify God?** Please read Nelson's definitions below, and observe the three primary ways the word "glory" is used:

Glorify—beauty, power, or honor; a quality of God's character that emphasizes His greatness and authority. The word is used in three senses in the Bible:

1. God's moral beauty and perfection of character. This divine quality is beyond man's understanding. All people "fall short" of it.
2. God's moral beauty and perfection as a visible presence. While God's glory is not a substance, at times God does reveal His perfection to man in a visible way. Such a display of the presence of God is often seen as fire or dazzling light, but sometimes as an act of power.
Since the close of the Old Testament, the glory of God has been shown mainly in Christ and in the members of His church. Christ now shares His divine glory with His followers, so that in their lives Christians are being transformed into the glorious image of God. Believers will be fully glorified at the end of time in God's heavenly presence. There the glory of God will be seen everywhere.
3. Praise. At times God's glory may mean the honor and audible praise which His creatures give to Him.

Glorify—to magnify God through praising His name and honoring His commandments. Jesus also glorified His Father through His perfect obedience and His sacrificial death on our behalf.¹

2. As you have just read, the word "glory" often refers to God's divine nature and attributes.² Now take a few moments for some prayerful reflection, and ask the Lord to remind you of His divine character. As He reveals specific characteristics to you, write them on the following list. To help you get started, I've written a couple of God's attributes on your list already. If you need a little more help and inspiration, I think it would do your heart good to read one of David's songs of praise, Psalm 145, as well as a couple of the hymns of heaven found in Revelation 4:8–11, and Revelation 15:3–4. You'll find many of God's glorious attributes recorded in these scriptures.

GLORY!

- c. Where were the people standing as God spoke to them, and where was God? What does this tell you about God's glory and His relationship to the children of Israel?

4. You just saw how God visibly revealed His glory to the Israelites. But does God still reveal His glory to people in the same way today and, if so, how? Please answer this question by reading the following scriptures and by noting what you learn about God's glory.
 - a. Psalm 19:1

 - b. Romans 1:18–25

5. Based upon what you learned from Romans 1, what are the consequences of refusing to acknowledge God's glory?

6. *Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary* also defines God's glory as praise and adoration given to Him.⁴ Please read Psalm 148 and answer the following questions:
 - a. According to this Psalm, who (or what) is commanded to praise and glorify God? Name the various groups mentioned in this Psalm.

- b. Now think about this: in addition to the fact that all of these groups are commanded to praise God, what else do they all hold in common?

- 7. As you conclude your time of study today, reflect upon the various ways God has revealed His glory to you. Which of His attributes has He displayed or expressed to you recently? How have you visibly seen His mighty deeds? Give Him glory and praise today by recording your insights.



— *Day Three* —

- 1. Before you begin to delve into God’s Word today, bow your head and prayerfully give Him an offering of praise and thanksgiving.



*Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name;
bring an offering, and come into His courts. Psalm 96:8*

I truly believe one of the biggest obstacles we face as we seek to glorify God is that we have forgotten just how glorious He is. Most of our waking hours are full to the brim with the routine responsibilities and activities of our daily lives. In our haste and hurry, we’re often too busy and self-consumed to see the glory of God. We walk right past it every day—but we don’t see it. And because we don’t see it, we’ve forgotten the glory of the One we consistently and routinely refer to as “God.” Yet every day without fail, our faithful, invisible God visibly makes His glory known.

Today I want to take you far away from your busy life and crazy calendar. We are going to escape for a few minutes from our current roles, routines, and responsibilities. The purpose of this much needed day trip is to help us gain a fresh glimpse of God’s glory. Don’t you long to see His glory? I do, too. And I believe God desires to show us His splendor and majesty in a brand new way *every* day.

GLORY!

We'll be going back in time to join a man who shared our longing to see the glory of God. Although he is recognized and remembered as one of the great forefathers of our faith, Scripture also records that he was very much like us: human. This man is Moses, and we are about to vicariously join him at a time in his life when he beheld the glory of God. This journey will require us to engage all of our senses as we try to imagine what it would have been like for Moses to experience this phenomenal event. As you read the following scriptures, try your very best to walk in Moses' "sandals." I have said enough for now. Incline your heart and tune your ear to the Spirit. May you catch a glimpse of God's glory through your journey into His Word today.

2. In order to gain a greater understanding of all that Moses was experiencing at this point in his life, please read Exodus 24:12, 15–18, 32:1–20, 25–35. Then answer the following questions:
 - a. According to Exodus 24, where was Moses, who was he with, and how long was he there?
 - b. According to Exodus 32, what was Moses' first response when God told Moses He was going to destroy the children of Israel because of their sin (see verses 11–13)? What does Moses' response reveal about his leadership and heart?
 - c. When Moses descended from Mt. Sinai and saw the Israelites' idolatry and sin firsthand, how did he respond (see Exodus 32:19–20, 25–29)? What emotions did he express, and what does his response reveal to you about Moses?
3. Exodus 32:7–29 represents the events of one single day in Moses' life as the leader of Israel. Prior to this, Moses had been in intimate communion alone with God for forty days and nights. Think about each of the following questions, and honestly and candidly record your answers to them:

- c. Please check the box that best describes your current daily awareness of and dependence upon God's presence in your life:
- I am aware and dependent upon God's presence and power in my life from the moment I wake in the morning until I fall asleep at night.
 - I am usually aware of God's presence in my life throughout most of my day, but I am not always dependent upon His power until I am faced with the daily challenges of life.
 - I am aware of God's presence in my life most of the time, but I usually rely upon my own strength.
 - I am somewhat aware of God's presence in my life, but I experience very little of His power in my daily life.
 - I am not usually aware of God's presence in my life until I am faced with challenges that are beyond my control and strength. At that point, I cry out to God to ask for His help.
 - I see God's presence and strength in other people's lives, but I do not consistently experience His presence or strength in my own life.

My sister, I believe one of the reasons Moses was so *intimate* with God was because Moses was so *dependent* upon God's presence and God's power. Faced with the constant, overwhelming challenges of leading God's people, Moses responded with a constant, overwhelming hunger to know and experience God.

GLORY!



8. Based upon your response to the previous question (Question 8c), are you completely dependent upon God’s presence and power in your daily life? Do you have an overwhelming hunger to know and experience God in an intimate way? Take a few minutes to record your answers to these questions, and express the desire of your heart to God.

I cannot conclude today’s homework until I’ve encouraged you to do one more thing. Dear sister, if you’re concerned or confused because you’re just not experiencing the daily, ongoing power of God’s presence in your life, I want to ask you to turn to page 221 and read the article entitled *A Change of Heart*. You truly *can* experience God’s presence and power in your life. The One who loves you most and knows you best desires to enjoy an intimate relationship with you. Find out how right now by reading *A Change of Heart*.

— Day Four —

1. Before you begin your time of study, please read the following Psalm. It was written at a very desperate time in David's life. Whatever cares or concerns you may be facing today, bow your head and prayerfully acknowledge God's presence and protection upon your life just as David did. Glory in God's provision for you today.



*But You, O Lord, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the One who lifts my head high.* Psalm 3:3

Yesterday we began a vicarious walk with Moses during a very challenging time in his life. We watched his heart break as God told him of the sin of his people and of His plans to destroy them. We listened to Moses intercede and plead for God to spare their lives.

Next we witnessed Moses' compassion turn to anger as he saw with his own eyes the golden calf and the idolatry of his people. The stone tablets were shattered. The golden calf was ground to powder. Aaron was confronted and called into account. We listened as Moses rallied the people to repentance and righteousness and declared death and destruction to those who would not repent. We read the grim statistics and learned that approximately 3000 men were immediately executed in what certainly must have been a gruesome bloodbath. And just imagine, all of this happened to Moses in *one day*.

Usually, even when we've had a bad day, and even when we've gone to bed discouraged, we awake the next morning, and things appear better and brighter in the light of a brand new day. Although that sunny scenario may hold true for us most of the time, in Moses' case it did not. When Moses woke up the next morning, things did *not* get better. In fact, things only grew worse.

The morning after the golden calf incident, Moses met with God and faithfully began interceding for the Israelites asking God to forgive them. God responded, but he refused Moses' requests. The guilty would *not* be forgiven—instead, they would be judged. And as if that were not bad enough, God further announced that He would no longer accompany Moses and the Israelites on their journey to the Promised Land. God had finally had it with them. He could no longer bear to be near them. God's terse, matter-of-fact pronouncement was then followed by a devastating plague. No, it definitely wasn't looking like the beginning of a very promising day for Moses.

Then Moses revealed why he must certainly be one of God's favorites (OK, I know God doesn't play favorites, but indulge me here for a moment). Moses had just experienced one of the worst days of his life, and now he's faced with an uncertain future full of people who cannot be trusted. Here's my question for you: If you'd been Moses, what would you have done next? As you ponder your answer, please keep in mind, Moses had options. He had choices. And he was human—just like you.

Yet in the midst of these extremely grim and difficult circumstances, let me tell you what Moses did: He did exactly what he *always* did—*he went to the tent*. Moses went to the place where he consistently met one-on-one with God. And when he entered, the people stood and watched as God’s majestic presence descended in the form of a cloud upon a humble tent which housed within it a very humble man. That morning, as he went to the tent, Moses showed his people that his priority—in good times and in bad—was to *seek God’s presence*. And that morning, by God’s gracious example, the Lord revealed His desire to experience intimate fellowship with man. Suddenly, a day that had once looked hopeless became hopeful.

The dialogue of Moses’ meeting with God in the tent is found in Exodus 33:12–18. Over and over in this passage, Moses expressed the primary concern of his heart to God. What follows is my own personal paraphrase of Moses’ words: “God, You’ve told us to continue our journey to the Promised Land. But Lord, if You don’t go with us, we don’t want to go. We know full well the only thing we have going for us is Your presence. Your presence is the only thing that sets us apart from every other nation on the earth. God, how will the other nations know we’re Your people if Your presence isn’t visibly with us?”

You know what I think? I think Moses knew something that far too many of us have either forgotten or have come to take for granted. Moses knew that *God’s presence is absolutely essential in every step we take and in every mile of every journey we make*. Moses not only recognized that he desperately needed God’s presence, but Moses also desperately depended upon God’s presence in his day-to-day life—which, of course, leads me to ask this question: Do we?

There is much we can learn from Moses’ example. So let’s return once again to the tent where Moses is meeting with God. Let’s listen carefully to their conversation. A day that began with the terrible news of God’s judgment is about to end with the promising words of God’s goodness. Pick up your Bible. Grab your pen. A new day will soon dawn. Glory is on its way, and we don’t want to miss it!

2. Please read and review the request Moses made of God in Exodus 33:13, and answer the following questions:
 - a. There are three parts in Moses’ request. These three parts are listed for you below. Using your own words, please paraphrase what you believe each of these statements means. Also, please note any significance you see regarding the order in which they are stated.

- 1) “*teach me Your ways*”

2) *“so that I may know You”*

3) *“and continue to find favor with You.”*

b. What does this reveal to you about Moses’ heart and life? What kind of relationship did he desire to have with God?

3. As Moses and God continue their meeting, Moses makes one final request. You studied it briefly yesterday, but please read Exodus 33:18–23, and answer the following questions:

a. What was Moses’ final request (v. 18)?

b. Please record God’s response (vv. 19–23) by answering three questions:

What will Moses see? _____

What will Moses hear? _____

What will Moses not see? _____

c. According to verse 21, what does Moses have to do in order to see God’s glory?

6. After seeing God's glory, Moses remained with God on the mountain for forty days and forty nights. When Moses descended from the mount, the sons of Israel immediately noticed something unique about Moses. Please read Exodus 34:29–35, then answer the following questions:
- a. What did the Israelites notice about Moses, and how did they respond (v. 30)?

 - b. Was Moses aware of this (v. 29)?

 - c. What specifically had caused this to happen to Moses (v. 29)?

 - d. As you saw in verses 34–35, this phenomenon happened to Moses more than once. What caused this to happen each time?

 - e. When this happened, what would Moses do (vv. 33–35)?

 - f. What did the Israelites see visibly manifested on Moses' countenance? Need a hint? It's a five-letter word, and it's the title of this week's lesson.

7. As you reflect upon Moses' encounters with God in the Tent of Meeting and on the mountain, and as you think about how these encounters affected Moses' life, what insights has the Holy Spirit shown you that you can apply to your own life?



— *Day Five* —



1. Today's Psalm was written by David, but it sure sounds like it could have been written by Moses. Begin your study time in prayer by asking God to give you a heart like David and Moses. Ask Him to increase your desire to live in His presence and see His glory.

*I love the house where You live, O Lord,
the place where Your glory dwells. Psalm 26:8*

Yesterday you watched Moses ascend Mt. Sinai to see God's glory as you studied Exodus 33–34. As he descended the mountain forty days later, the evidence of Moses' encounter with God was written upon, not only the two stone tablets he carried, but it was also "written" upon his face. God's glory visibly shone from Moses' countenance.

In a beautiful way, Moses' glowing face has application for us today. All throughout this study, I will be exhorting you with these words: You glo, girl! Now when I say that, please know I don't mean you're to glow literally, like Moses did. I'm simply using the word "glo" as an abbreviation for the word "glorify." When I say, "You glo, girl," I'm encouraging you to glorify God. But I'm also using the word "glo" as an illustration because, as Christians, we are called to be lights in this world. Our lives should visibly reflect and reveal the glory of the One who inhabits us—which should remind us of the scripture we began memorizing on Day One:

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

—1 Corinthians 6:19–20 NASB

As God's temple, we should glow. In the weeks ahead, we'll be studying and learning many specific ways we can glorify God. But for today, I want to help you understand how Moses' glowing face applies to us. Sister, we may not literally glow as Moses did but—now get ready because this next part is almost too good to be true—the glory God has given us is *even better* than the glory the children of Israel saw upon Moses' face! Isn't that amazing?! And doesn't that make you want to learn why the glory we have is greater than the glory Moses had? I sure hope so, because that will be the focus of our study today.

My sister, as you complete this first week's lesson, I'm praying God will give you a deeper appreciation for all that He's given you and a greater desire to glow for Him than you've ever had before.

2. Your focus today will be on 2 Corinthians 3. Please read this entire chapter slowly and purposefully. Observe the difference between the glory of Moses and The Law (the Old Covenant), and the glory of the New Testament believer (the New Covenant).
3. The following chart is based on the chapter you just read: 2 Corinthians 3. On this chart, you can clearly see the differences between the glory of Moses and The Law (the Old Covenant) and the glory of the New Testament believer (the New Covenant). Please take a few moments to study—and to rejoice in—the contrasts between Old Covenant and New Covenant.

The Glory of Moses and The Law vs. The Glory of the New Testament Believer

1) v. 3 written by God on tablets of stone	1) v. 3 written by the Spirit on tablets of human hearts
2) v. 6 of the letter which kills	2) v. 6 of the Spirit which gives life
3) v. 7 came with glory	3) v. 8 came with even more glory
4) v. 9 it condemned men	4) v. 9 it made men righteous
5) v. 10 has no glory now	5) v. 10 has surpassing glory
6) v. 13 its glory was fading away	6) v. 18 its glory grows as we are being transformed

4. You've just seen how the glory of the New Testament believer surpasses the Old Testament glory of Moses and The Law. Please answer the following questions as you look at 2 Corinthians 3 once more:
 - a. According to verses 2–3, is God's presence in our lives visible to others? Please explain your answer and include words from these verses in your explanation.
 - b. According to verses 3, 6, 8, and 17–18, please explain the source of the believer's glory.
 - c. According to verse 13, why did Moses cover his glowing face?
 - d. According to verses 14–16, where is this "veil" today and how can it be removed?

GLORY!

- e. Please read verse 18, then check the box/boxes that are true about you.

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

—2 Corinthians 3:18

- I am a reflection of God's glory.
- I am being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory.

5. Now let's take a brief look at an Old Testament passage written by David: Psalm 24:3–4. These verses are so appropriate in light of what we've studied this week. Please read them, and answer the following questions:

- a. What was David's question?
- b. What was David's answer?
- c. What about you? Is there anything hindering you from intimate fellowship with God? If so, what is it?

If you would like to enjoy fellowship and intimacy with God once again, you must seek "clean hands and a pure heart" (Psalm 24:4). You can do this in the same way David did—through confession and repentance of your sin. If you're ready to do this right now, please read Psalm 32:1–5, and follow David's example. Rejoice in God's forgiveness and in restored fellowship with Him.



6. This week we've seen how Moses diligently sought God's presence and desperately desired to know God intimately. As a result, he not only witnessed God's glory, he reflected God's glory. Please use the following words to begin journaling a prayer to the Lord that expresses the desire of your heart as a result of what He's revealed to you this week.

