

## Great Prayers Of The Bible

Moses Prayer For Restored Fellowship  
Exodus 33:13-16

*“Now therefore, I pray Thee, if I have found favor in Thy sight, **let me know Thy ways, that I may know Thee**, so that I may find favor in Thy sight. Consider too, that this nation is Thy people.’ ...*

*... ‘If Thy presence does not go with us, do not lead us up from here. For how then can it be known that I have found favor in Thy sight, I and Thy people? **Is it not by Thy going with us, so that we, I and Thy people, may be distinguished from all the other people who are upon the face of the earth?**’”*

### Context

- Exodus 32
  - ◆ While Moses was on the mountain...
  - ◆ Israelites “*corrupted*” themselves and committed “*great sin*” (verse 21).
- Moses entreats the Lord to remember His promises and to change His mind (verses 11-13).

### Context

- Moses’ response. (32:19-29)
- Moses seeks forgiveness – offers to bear the punishment (32:31-35)
- “Whoever has sinned” (Ezekiel 18:20)
- God needed Moses to lead – Aaron?
- **“Go now, lead the people where I told you”** (34)
- Judgment at the hand of God (32:35)

### Context

- Sin breaks fellowship with God (33:1-3)
  - ◆ “Go up from here” (33:1)
  - ◆ God sends an angel (33:2)
  - ◆ “I will not go up in your midst” (33:3)
- “they went into mourning” (33:4)

The question no longer is, “Will the Israelites live?,” or even, “Will Israel possess the land, as God promised?,” but “Will God ever be present in the midst of His people?”

What would it mean to hear:

- “I will not go up in your midst”
- God is saying, “I won’t be with you anymore.”

### Context

The people mourn over “this sad word”. (33:4) – cf. Matthew 5:3-4  
 The realization that sin separates – Isaiah 59:1-2  
 Separation is death

### Loss of Fellowship

- No longer “MY people” (3:10), God now refers to them as “YOUR people” (32:7) or “the people YOU have brought up from the land of Egypt” (33:1).

- It is has been appropriately said that, “It is one thing to mourn because of God's discipline of our sins and quite something else to mourn because of God's distance resulting from our sin and pride.”

### Conditions for renewed fellowship

- “Put off your ornaments... that I may know what I will do with you” (33:5)
- Customary as a token of mourning.
- Not a temporary change ... “from Mount Horeb onward” (33:6)
- How serious are we about changing? Romans 13:12-14

## True Repentance

A demonstration of change. Acts 19:18-19  
 Begins in the heart. Joel 2:13  
 Brings forth fruit. Matthew 3:11; Acts 26:20

## The Tent Of Meeting

- Not the Tabernacle
- For “everyone who sought the Lord” (33:7)
- “A good distance outside the camp”
- What does it mean to go “outside the camp”?
- Moses spoke “face to face” – it is here that Moses offers his prayer to God.

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## The Prayer

A prayer for direction, guidance and divine leadership

**“Let me know Thy ways”**

Deuteronomy 10:12-13; Proverbs 3:5; Jeremiah 10:23; Isaiah 55:8-9; Psalms 25:1-5

## The Prayer

A prayer for fellowship with God

**“That I may know Thee”**

1 John 2:3-5; Jeremiah 9:23-24; Philippians 3:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2:10-13

## **The Prayer**

**A prayer for providential blessings**

***“If Thy presence does not go with us, do not lead us up from here”***

Proverbs 3:6; 16:1-3; James 4:13ff;  
Romans 8:31-32; Philippians 4:13

## **The Prayer**

**A prayer for holiness**

***“So that we ... may be distinguished from all the other people who are upon the face of the earth?”***

2 Timothy 2:19-21; 2 Corinthians 6:4ff;  
Matthew 5:13-17; 1 Peter 1:14-15;  
Proverbs 4:3

## **Moses' Prayer**

- **A prayer for direction, guidance & divine leadership**
- **A prayer for renewed fellowship**
- **A prayer for God's providential blessings**
- **A prayer for holiness**