

MAKING GOD SMILE BIBLE STUDY

What puts a smile on your face/What makes you happy?

What do you think puts a smile on God's face/What makes God happy?

We're going to read Exodus 33 to learn more about what puts a smile on God's face.

Before you read Exodus 33: Moses led the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt. The Israelites saw God do many miracles. Miracles are special things that God can do that don't happen normally. One miracle God did was to part the Red Sea. The Israelites walked across the Red Sea on dry land. Later, Moses went up on a mountain to talk to God. Moses came down the mountain. He was sad because the people had made another god. This god wasn't really a god. It was only a statue made out of gold that looked like a baby cow. God was also sad.

Read Exodus 33 from the *Day by Day Kid's Bible* (attached--see next page)

Retell the story. If you are with your family, ask them to tell you what happened in the story we just read.

Does anything surprise you in this story? What do you find most interesting about this story?

How did God speak to Moses? v.11 (underlined)

How do you talk to a friend?

What would it be like for God to talk to you like a friend?

What does it mean for God to show Moses his glory? V. 18 (underlined)

Do you share things with your friends that you don't share with others?

This is what Moses wanted. He wanted to know God's secrets. He wanted to know what God was thinking. He wanted to really know God. This pleased God. This put a smile on God's face.

Do you want to put a smile on God's face right now?

A. Tell him you want to know him.

or

B. Tell him you want to want to know him.

It makes God smile when we tell him we want to know him. But God also knows what we really think. You can't fool God. He knows if we **really** want to know him. It might be more truthful for some of us to tell God we **want to want** to know him. It also makes God smile when we are truthful with him.

Ask yourself/your family if A or B is something they want to tell God. Lead yourself and/or family in prayer. Give anyone who wants to pray a chance to pray.

MOSES SEES GOD'S BACK

EXODUS 33

God said, "Move on now. Take my people to the land I promised them. I'll send an angel ahead of you. I'll drive out the people who live in that land now. The land is very good. You'll find plenty of food there. It's as if milk and honey flow out for people. But I won't go with you. Your people won't listen to me. If I went with you, I might get rid of them."

God's people were sad to hear this.

Now Moses had a special tent outside the camp. He called it the meeting tent. People who wanted to ask God something would go there. When Moses went there, people would stand in the tent doors. They would watch Moses go into the tent. Then the tall cloud would come down in front of the tent. It would stay there while God talked to Moses. The people would see the cloud. Then they would worship at their tents.

¹¹God talked to Moses as a friend. They talked together. Then Moses would come back to camp. But Joshua, his helper, wouldn't leave the meeting tent.

Moses told God, "You tell me to lead the people. But you don't tell me who will go with me. You said that you know me. You said that you know my name. So if I make you happy, teach me. Teach me your ways. So I can know you. Remember that we are your people.

"I'll go with you," said God.

"If you don't go with us, don't send us," said Moses. "When you're with us, people know we're yours. That's what makes us different from other nations."

"I'll do what you've asked," said God. "I'm happy with you. I know you as a friend."

¹⁸"Now," said Moses, "show me who you are. Show me your glory."

"I'll show you all my goodness," said God. "I'll tell you my name: The Lord. I'll be kind to the people I choose. But I can't let you see my face. Anyone who sees my face will die."

Then God said, "You can stand on a rock near me. My greatness will pass by. When it does, I'll put you in a crack in the rock. I'll put my hand over you. After I pass, I'll move my hand off. Then you can see my back. But I can't let you see my face."