



# Tuesday Devotion: Exodus Week 15 July 7, 2020

## **Moses' Mask and Prayer: Lord, Come in our Midst**

Bible Reference: [Exodus 34](#)

What did Moses' mask look like? Scripture uses the word veil. Brides wear veils, so was it a veil or more like a mask? Maybe it was like a face shield. (I am planning to use one of those this weekend at Tate's baptism.) Sometimes while I am driving and seeing all the people wearing masks, I wonder how we got here. I know it shouldn't be surreal anymore, but it still is for me. With St. Louis going "all in" on masks, I have had to up my mask collection. I used to collect stamps, baseball cards, clothes, and shoes, but I never expected to have a collection of masks.

In Exodus 34 Moses was wearing a mask because the people were overwhelmed with his radiant face after he had been talking with God. Time and time again Scripture asks us to help our weaker brother. This means there are times when we are careful with our words and actions around those who are not ready for it. For Moses, the children of Israel were not ready to see the glory of God radiating from his face, so he wore a mask. The sad truth is that some people are not ready to see God's glory—to see Jesus—even today, and we have to patiently wait for them get there. That number grows every year in this country. And now, with all these restrictions, we may wonder how will we ever get to help them?

Let's back up and look at what Moses did before his face became radiant. Moses prayed for God to be in their midst. Exodus 34:9 says, "If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance". Moses recently came down the mountain with the first set of commandments, saw the Israelites disobeying God by worshiping a golden calf, and in anger threw the tablets down and broke them. Now, heading back up the mountain for the Lord to recreate the tablets, he's asking for pardon and for God to be in their midst.

We may feel like our earth has broken every commandment and there is no hope, yet we can learn from Moses who boldly prays for his weaker brothers. He prays that Jesus would be in their midst. No matter what restrictions we face, we can pray for Jesus to be in our midst. No matter how lost our earth feels, Jesus calls us to pray for His presence. We may have to do some interesting things for our weaker brother in this wilderness but let us not miss the opportunity to pray for Jesus to be in our midst.

Personally, every morning I have been praying for evil to be destroyed. Psalm 104:36 says, "Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more." And now I'll add to that Exodus 34:9, Lord, Jesus, be in our midst! Won't you join me in prayer!

God's Peace,  
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