

# *Lord, Teach Me Your Ways*

## *Key Verse:*

*"And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. ... thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight. Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people."* Ex 33:11-13 (KJV)

## *Today's Portion for the Journey*

The LORD spoke to Moses face to face, just as a man would speak with His friend. In this place of friendship, Moses prayed to the LORD, saying he has known Him by name and found favor in God's sight. Then he asked that if he had found favor, that God would show him His ways. If you were able to stand face to face with the LORD and speak to Him as you would speak to a friend, is this what you would ask Him? Why Moses request to know God's ways when he already knew the LORD so well? The Hebrew word for "ways" that was used in this passage refers to the path worn by constant walking, journey or mission. The word can refer to the actions or behaviors of men or the path of the LORD God. The word is used 150x in OT. It is used to describe a road, distance, journey, also the course or direction, path, pathway, practice, manner, habits, course of life, moral character. God is the frequent subject of this word. 1869 (root) has to do with setting a foot to a territory, treading, more forceful than merely walking. Strong's # 1870. Moses clearly understood that knowing God's way would help him to know the LORD in a deeper way. The Hebrew word for "know" used in this passage is "yada" means to be acquainted, clearly comprehend, understand, familiar friend, knowledge, intimate friendship. Now it makes sense why Moses specifically asked to know God's ways!

"Righteousness will go before Him,  
and will make His footsteps into our pathway  
(or set us in the way of His footsteps.)" Ps. 85:13 (KJV)

## *Digging Deeper in the Word:*

1. Re-read the Key Scripture, this time using the Amplified Bible. Note their definition for the word "way." How does this definition (which is in brackets correspond to the definition you located in Strong's? Does it give you any additional insight?

*"And the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. ... You said, I know you by name and you have also found favor in My sight. Now therefore, I pray You, if I have found favor in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You [progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with You, perceiving and recognizing and understanding more strongly and clearly] and that I may find favor in Your sight...."* Ex 33:11-13 AMPLIFIED BIBLE)

2. Now let's look at a cross reference to this verse in Ps. 103: 7. Did God answer Moses' prayer to know His ways? What do you think is the difference between Israel seeing His acts, but Moses knowing His ways?

Answer: Israel saw what God did, but Moses was given understanding of His heart. When God showed him His ways, he became intimately acquainted with His character, personality, motives, passions and purposes. Israel saw God's actions, but Moses understood His motives and the love behind His actions.

3. Look up these additional Scriptures related to God's ways. Beside each verse write down what this verse teaches you about our need to know God's ways. How do we learn His ways? Also note how far our own ways are from His ways!

Isa. 55:8-9  
Isa. 65:1-2  
Isa. 53:6  
Ps. 25:1-5  
Ps. 86:11  
Jer. 9:23-24  
Ps. 27:11  
Ps. 51:10-13  
Ps. 119:33-40

4. **USING A STRONG'S CONCORDANCE:** To really plumb the depths of this verse, we really needed to know what the key words meant in the Hebrew language when Moses used it. For that, one of the simplest tools to use is the Strong's Concordance. When Strong put together his concordance for the Bible, he wrote down every word in the Bible and its location. Then he assigned a number to each word that links it to a dictionary in the back of the concordance. This dictionary provides the original word used in the Hebrew (Old Testament) or Greek (New Testament) and the meaning of that word. Make sure that the Strong's Concordance you are using is done for the same version you are using. The English words may vary from one translation to another.

5. Do you think there is anyway that we can learn God's ways apart from His teaching us? How do you think He teaches us His ways?

*What is the Lord speaking to your heart?*

*Responding to the Lord:* Did you notice that most of the verses we have studied today are actually prayers? Use these prayers to formulate a prayer of your own by paraphrasing these verses into your own words.