

## Joint Ventures, The Tabernacle, 3.7.10

### Unlocking Your Heart

Ex.25-36

#### Intro

1. Review – Joint Ventures; Cross Over; The environment you live in will determine your spiritual temperature.
2. Unlocking your heart to become a liberal.
3. Read Ex.35.4-36.7 (summarize)
4. How do you get there?
5. **CIM – Liberal giving is an outward response to God’s goodness.**
6. Background about the Tabernacle/Tent of Meeting
  - a. What is it?
  - b. Why was it important? 25.8
  - c. What did it look like? (Images)
  - d. How did they fund it? Freewill offerings.
  - e. Quick overview of ch.25 – 31.
  - f. The Golden Calf & God’s response, 32-34. As God is giving Moses specific directions about worship, the Israelites are worshipping a false god!
    - i. 32.9-14, God was ready to wipe them out; 32.35 – God allows for a plague to destroy the rebellious. He was so angry, b/c of all that he had done for them in delivering them from Egypt, through the Red Sea and in the desert.
    - ii. 33.2-5, God refuses to go with the people
    - iii. 33.14-17, God promises to go with the people
    - iv. 34.5-8, God provides a personal revelation of His character to Moses, which is revealed to the people.
    - v. 34.9ff., God forgives Israel and commends them to move ahead. He provides another set of commandments, which is a clear indication he’s giving them another chance, 34.29.
    - vi. Then 35.4-36.7 happens.
  - g. CIM – Liberal giving is an outward response to the goodness of God.

h. TS – Let's see how they became liberal givers!

**I. Clearly understand your condition without God (32.9f)**

- a. The Israelites destiny w/o God – destroyed, in captivity, no hope, slaves, tormented, overcome by their enemy. It is a picture of our life w/o Christ.
- b. Where would you be today without God...eternally without Jesus?
- c. Remind you of your life w/o God.
  - i. Luke 16.19–31
  - ii. Description of Hell from Section E in Sermon File #3 Hell.
  - iii. 23 Minutes in Hell
- d. It should create soberness in you and stir thanksgiving.
- e. I believe one of the strong reasons Israelites gave so abundantly & freely was b/c they knew what they deserved & God saved them from it. We too should be grateful.

**II. A personal revelation of His heart (33.18–34.8)**

- a. Though this was a personal revelation to Moses, I believe it was quickly shared with everyone. The stories of other's encounters with God are critical in our own faith journey.
- b. When God reveals His heart it accelerates our heart. When I experience God's super abundant grace it should then be reflected in my attitude towards others & giving.
- c. When we reflect upon God's goodness, mercy and love to us it should stir us. Emotions act as a catalyst to move the intellect and will to action.
- d. Appl – Certain songs, poems, images, Scriptures, movies or stories about the God or an eternal truth that give us a personal revelation of His heart. Reflecting upon them tenderizes our heart to the affections of God.
  - i. And Can It Be
  - ii. How He Loves

- iii. Meditating upon these truth, unlocks my heart .
- e. Moses' heart was unlocked to worship God! (34.9) We were meant to be moved in our affections by God and for God. Don't apologize for seeking a deeper expression and experience of God's heart.
- f. Our relationship with God was never meant to be a cold, academic one, but it is meant to be filled with life and joy! Liberal giving is often a response to a personal encounter with the affections of God.

### **III. Sincere gratefulness for His presence in our lives and the forgiveness of our sins (33.2-5, 15-18, 34.9).**

- a. The woman who wiped Jesus' feet. The one who has been forgiven much, loves much (Luke 7). We are released!
- b. What if you did not have the HS in your life? Your sin's forgiven?
- c. Verbalizing and writing our gratefulness puts life into perspective. Most of my praying is for the things I don't have or want God to do. I don't spend enough time thanking God for what He's done and who He is.
- d. Spend time expressing our thankfulness to the Lord. (Use insert - Lord, I thank you for...) Writing out our gratefulness helps us to gain a new perspective.

#### **Conclusion:**

1. The Israelites had turned their backs on God after He had done so much for them (sent Moses, the plagues, delivered from Egypt, Red Sea, manna & quail, the water from the ground, fulfilled His promise), yet God didn't reject them. They were His special possession
  2. This unlocked their heart, which unlocked their giving.
  3. Application to Cross Over campaign
  3. Deeply understanding your condition w/o God, having a personal revelation of His heart and being sincerely grateful for His

presence and forgiveness, should facilitate generous giving. I want to give abundantly, b/c he has abundantly given to me. **Liberal giving is an outward response to God's goodness.**

4. What can you do this week? Meditate on those truths which draw your heart to God. Spend more time thanking God.