

Small Group Questions

Body Makeover Series
Sunday Oct. 16, 2011

1. **Read Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99.** Have you ever had a moment in your life when it just seemed like no one was "on your side"? What happened? Do you think Moses felt this way? Why?
2. Have you ever attempted to be the leader of something? Was it easy or hard for you? Did you ever have moments of weakness? How did you handle it?
3. How difficult is it for you to take God at His word? Do you accept it and keep moving or do you need Him to somehow prove to you that He will do what He said He would do? Why?
4. In this passage, Moses had the presence of God going with Him through all of the tough stuff he had to face. How about you? Does the presence of God go with you through all of the good and the bad stuff of your life? How do you know?
5. **Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10.** What are some personal convictions you aren't afraid to share with others? Or what would people say you believe?
6. What convictions are you more hesitant to share? Explain what it is about these convictions that hold you back.
7. Read through 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 again. In what ways do your actions support your beliefs? In what areas don't your actions support your beliefs? Why?
8. Who or what owns your heart? Really think about this...where do you spend your time, effort, money, love, attention? The answer to those questions will tell you who owns your heart. If you don't like the answer, how do you change it?
9. **Read Matthew 22:15-22.** What are the two "impossible" answers the Pharisees hoped to trap Jesus into giving? Why ask these questions to Jesus?
10. In your opinion, what does Jesus mean by his answer in verse 21?
11. What belongs to Caesar in your life? What belongs to God in your life? How do you know?
12. How can we pray for you this week?

Last Sunday our "Body Makeover" reminded us to "get our heads on straight" by rejecting Exodus 32 thinking and embracing Philippians 4 thinking. Today, the makeover continues as we explore the examples of Moses in the Old Testament, and Jesus in the New Testament. How can Jesus' words on paying taxes impact our heart's passion and priorities? Exodus 33 and Matthew 22 share a subtle but powerful connection.

For significant life change, let's start at the top.

- I. A _____ (Exodus 33:12-17)
 - Moses is having a leadership crisis
 - While he is on the mountain, the people have "heart trouble"
 - Side-tracked minds led to "shaky hearts"
- II. _____ Hearts
 - Ever have any "heart trouble"?
 - Crisis of fear or pressure ever make your "heart weak"?
 - Israelites had a crisis, "Where is our leader?"
 - Moses had a crisis, too
- III. Check Your _____ (Matthew 22:15-22)
 - Jesus said, "Whose image...? "Give it to Caesar"
 - Jesus didn't come for political or military coup
 - His Kingdom was then and is now, called to function in real time and real space, here and now
 - Where is your heart? Who or what has your heart?
- IV. Whose _____ is this? (Matthew 22:20)
 - Whose or what image is there?
 - Genesis 1:26-27
 - Give to Caesar what is Caesar's
 - What competes for your heart?

What is stamped on your heart?