**SERIES: MOSES
TITLE:**  The Finest Hour
**SPEAKER:** Bob Marvel
**DATE:** August 22-23, 2020

*“Be humble. Seek God.”* **– Bob Marvel**

1. ICE BREAKER: Lately, companies have been launching unique flavors of chips like Jalapeno Cheddar, Crispy Taco, and Wavy Fried Green Tomato. If you could create the next “chip sensation,” what flavor would it be?
2. C.S. Lewis said, “True humility is not thinking less about yourself, but thinking about yourself less.” With this quote in mind, who comes to your mind when you think of the word “humble.” What behaviors or characteristics did or does this person display that represent humbleness in your eyes?
3. This week’s message explores the humbleness of Moses. A man who easily could have thought very highly of himself, what contributed to his humbleness? Does this characteristic of Moses surprise you? Why or why not?
4. This story begins with the LORD concluding talking with Moses after 40 days on Mount Sinai and Moses receiving the “tablets of stone inscribed by the fingers of God.” (See Exodus 31:18) While he is having his “mountain top” experience with God, what is happening down in the valley” (Exodus 32:1-6) Why is this so shocking considering the events of Exodus so far?
5. With Exodus 24:7 in mind – On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being “non-existent” and 10 being “off the charts loyal” how would you rate the loyalty of the Israelites to God? What facets of their behavior prompted you to assign this number?
6. Read Exodus 32:8-10. What was God’s response in Verse 10 to their behavior? What, if anything, surprises you about His response? Now, in Exodus 32:19, what was Moses’ response when he saw the calf and dancing?
7. Is God’s and Moses’ fury justified in this story? Why or why not? What are some examples of righteous anger justifying unrighteous actions? Should we as Christians have righteous anger? If so, how should we honor God with our response?
8. In Exodus 32:11-13, what in Moses’ extremely bold appeal do you think persuades God to do an “about-face” in his response to the Israelites blatant disobedience? What words would you use to describe Moses here? What can we learn about Moses’ character here? What does the fact that God didn’t rebuke Moses, but listened to him, show about Moses’ correctness in speaking this way?

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1. What was God’s final decision as a result of Moses’ conversation with him? How did He display mercy? How did He display justice?
2. After punishing the Israelites for the golden calf, Moses immediately approached God with humility to seek reconciliation. What solution does he offer God to fulfill the required punishment? Read Romans 9:2-4 and Romans 5:6-8. What does Moses’ solution foreshadow? Who does it point to?

1. In Exodus 33:13, Moses prays an incredibly bold prayer. What was his response to receiving all the great things God promised in exchange for God’s presence no longer being with them? Following his example, what should we be seeking more of – the presence of God or blessings from God? Why?
2. Along the same line as #11, answer Mike Woodruff’s question – “What do you spend more time wanting – a closer walk with Christ or your old life back?” If willing, please share your answer.

1. How satisfied are you with the way you are “meeting” with God lately? If willing, please share. Moses stood in the gap for the Israelites. Are you willing to stand in the gap for others so they may know God? If so, how? It will be your finest hour!

**MISCELLANEOUS**

1. What would you like to talk about from this week’s message that hasn’t already been discussed?
2. How can we as a group be praying for each other in the coming week?

*“What if we followed Moses? What if we engaged in true humility of knowing who God is and who we are? To humbly think of others more than ourselves? What if we stood in the gap praying others would find God? What if we said, ‘God, can I know you better?’ WHAT IF? If we did that, then it could be ‘Our Finest Hour!’”* **– Bob Marvel**

*“Lead me in your love to those around me. It’s what Moses did. It’s what Jesus did.
It is what we are called to do.”* **-Bob Marvel**

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