**SERMON FOR ASI DAY**

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**The Way**

I can still remember when I preached for the first time. I was 15 years old, I had just been baptized and the elder of the church asked me to preach the following Sabbath. I remember that he gave me a magazine and I found a story in it. I learned the story by heart and I repeated it over and over again until it was etched in my brain. When the day came to preach I was very nervous. I had never preached before. I stood at the pulpit, did not look at anyone, began to read my story but I could not read. My legs were shaking, I started to stutter. I talked for 5 minutes then I sat down. The elder of the church didn’t say anything to me. He announced the closing hymn and had the prayer. I was so ashamed I didn’t want to greet anyone or look at anyone but I was forced to dismiss the brethren at the church doors. The brethren were nice because they would tell: “Very good, brother. You did really well.” Of course I did it well. I began to preach at 11 a.m. and finished at 11:05 a.m. Many of them wanted me to preach every day so that they could go to lunch early. Let us allow the power of the Holy Spirit to take our lives, those of the preacher and the church members alike, so that we can find in the following passages that we will read a message for our life in particular.

I would like to invite you to open your Bibles to the book of Exodus, chapter 33 and verse 11. We read: “So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.” (NKJV)

Can you imagine that wonderful scene? God wanted to speak to Moses. He searched for Moses to speak face to face as a friend. God is our friend. Please, let us talk with Him every day. Let us not lose the opportunity to talk with God, to seek Him until we find Him the secret chamber of prayer.

I have friends to whom I cannot tell them anything – it would be risky to tell them.

I have friends to whom I can tell them a few things – not everything but some things.

But I have a friend to whom I can tell everything – God is a Friend to whom I can tell everything. He will not disappoint me. I can tell Him my sorrows and my struggles. He knows my tears and my life. He knows how much I need Him and He knows my family. I can fully trust Him. I know that I can tell Him everything face to face. He is a faithful Friend.

Moses took advantage of this interview to request THREE well-defined things. If you are my friend, please, I am only going to ask you for three things:

**FIRST THING THAT MOSES ASKED FOR – SHOW ME THE WAY**

1. Exodus 33: 13

“Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation *is* Your people.” (NKJV)

1. A tremendous request. Which is the way? Show me now Your way. I’m lost, Lord. Show me the way.
2. Show me the way in my personal life
3. Show me the way in my family relationships
4. Show me the way in my decisions, my business, please show me the way.
5. Show me the way in my job, in my studies, with my children…Please, Lord. Show me the way. Which is the way?
6. When the Israelites left Egypt, God guided them through the desert. He was willing to show them the way. He guided them with a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night:
7. Let us read Exodus 13: 21, 22

“And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night *from* before the people.” (NKJV)

1. The cloud was moving forward and stopped in front of the Red Sea. Is this the way?
2. Behind it was the Egyptian army, in front the Red Sea, to the sides the mountains called: Baal- Zephon and y Pi Hahiroth.
3. Where are we going? Where will we run? Is this the way? God, why have you brought us here? Is this the way?
4. The answer is in Exodus 14: 14, 15

“The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.

And the Lord said to Moses, ‘Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward’.” (NKJV)

God will fight for us. God will do the best for our family, for our children. When there is no way out, God will make a way. He will show you the way. If there is no way out, He will show you the way out.

1. Verse 15: “And the Lord said to Moses, ‘Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward’.” (NKJV)
2. The question is which way do we go forward? Behind is the Egyptian army, in front the Red Sea, and the mountains to the sides. Which way do we move? Where do we march to?
3. When the children of Israel obeyed and marched forward, God did a miracle. The waters of the Red Sea were parted. God will make a way where there is no way. He makes the way because He is the Way. God will do a miracle. He will show you the way.

***Illustration:*** *(Optional. Or you can tell a story that illustrates how God showed you the way in your life.)*

I grew up in an Adventist home. My mother was a woman “very strict and to the point”. She would always say no to anything that she believed would harm us. One day, we asked her if we could go to the cinema and of course she answered NO. Adventists do not go to the cinema. So we asked her, why not? To which she responded, “because no and that’s it”. Every time that she would say no we became more curious about going to the cinema. So one day we made plans to go to the cinema. I was 11 years old, my sister was 10, my third brother was 8, and my little brother was 4. We took him also so that he would not say anything, so that he would keep the secret. We arrived late to the cinema and we sat in the last row. All of sudden the lights came on and went off. We thought the movie was about to start. But then we heard a loud noise and then a movement. It wasn’t the movie, it was an earthquake. It was one of the largest earthquakes in the history of Latin America. More than 120,000 people died in this earthquake. It looked like scenes from judgment day and I was going the wrong way. We left the cinema as fast as arrows. We were the first ones outside since we were the last ones who went in. We began to run and behind us bricks and walls were falling, the ground opened up to give way to the water that was gushing from below. I was in front running and my little brother was behind me with his hands in the air screaming: “Lord, why are You so mad if we haven’t even seen the movie yet?”

*I definitely learned a great lesson.*  My mother knew what was best for us. Brothers and sisters, God knows which is the way for us. He knows what is good for our lives and He pointed to Christ as the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

1. A new way for your family, a new way for your children, a new way for you.
2. A new opportunity. God knows how to show us the way. Trust in Him and He will bring it to pass. Psalm 37:5

**SECOND THING MOSES ASKED FOR: GIVE ME YOUR PRESENCE**

1. Exodus 33:15

“Then he said to Him, “If Your Presence does not go *with us,* do not bring us up from here.” (NKJV)

1. Give me your presence was Moses’ request. I will not go anywhere if You do not give me Your presence.
2. I do not want to go about the world without God’s presence. I want His company; I want God’s presence in my life.
3. It is very sad to walk alone and to live without God’s presence in your life.

**THIRD THING MOSES ASKED FOR: SHOW ME YOUR GLORY**

1. Exodus 33: 18

“And he said, ‘Please, show me Your glory’.”

1. I want to see God’s glory.
2. God’s glory is eternal. It is not the glory of the world that gives us comfort. It is Divine glory. It is God’s glory that sustains my life.
3. I want to see God’s glory when He comes. He will come in glory and majesty. I want to be there.

**CONCLUSION**

Show me the way

Give me Your presence

Show me Your glory