

Lesson 5-7 Robert

Tent of Meeting Time

1. Robert returned home from his visit to his mother and family with many new ideas and challenges. As a reminder, Robert's mother thought Robert was beginning to show signs of arrogance, and she also wanted him to do the "right thing" concerning paying his own way and helping Uncle Leo with household chores. So, Robert talked with Uncle Leo about help paying for expenses and helping with chores. Leo said that he didn't want any money, but Robert could pick up some groceries once in a while and help with the household chores.

After work, Robert stopped to buy a bag of groceries and a music CD of Uncle Leo's favorite music. Uncle Leo thanked Robert and tears came to both Leo's and Robert's eyes. Robert knew that he had, in fact, done the "right thing" (secret number 15).

Robert is concerned about Uncle Leo since Uncle Leo is old. He related his worries to Uncle Leo and said "what will I do without you? You guide me, we talk each night about our thoughts, and you are my best friend. I would be in ruins without you."

Uncle Leo said that it is true, he is old and his health is failing; he could die at any time. Then he told Robert that he was very proud of Robert and had confidence that he (Robert) would do fine without him. Then Uncle Leo gave Robert the final secret to success; we will call it secret number 16:

16. Meet with God daily

Uncle Leo told Robert that with secret number 16, Robert is guaranteed to be a success with or without Uncle Leo.

2. Can Robert be successful without Uncle Leo by using secret number 16? How and why?

3. Uncle Leo told Robert that when he was a young man, a pastor preached on meeting with God daily. He used the lives of Moses and Joshua to illustrate the importance of this principle. God and Moses met routinely and spoke with each other in the most intimate way: "mouth to mouth." Please read:

Numbers 12:6 And he said, Hear now my words: if there be a prophet among you, I Jehovah will make myself known unto him in a vision, I will speak with him in a dream.

Numbers 12:7 My servant Moses is not so; he is faithful in all my house:

Numbers 12:8 with him will I speak mouth to mouth, even manifestly, and not in dark speeches; . . (ASV)

4. would Moses have been successful in delivering Israel to the Promised Land without meeting with God and receiving divine guidance and wisdom?

5. when Moses got old and God needed to pick a replacement, He picked Joshua. Do you know why?

6. Please read:

Exodus 33:7 Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp.

Exodus 33:8 whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise up, and each would stand at his tent door, and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent.

Exodus 33:9 when Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the LORD would speak with Moses.

Exodus 33:10 And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise up and worship, each at his tent door.

Exodus 33:11 Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent. (ESV)

After reading the above scriptures do you know why God picked Joshua to replace Moses?

7. Then Uncle Leo said that when he read the above scriptures, he realized that Joshua was the only person who understood the purpose of the tent of meeting. The others watched Moses meet with God, and while the others were watching Moses meet with God, Joshua was meeting with God. Therefore, Joshua was the obvious choice for Moses' successor. So, Uncle Leo, like Joshua,

went into his "tent of meeting" every night and met with God. He had done that for the last 60 years.

8. Robert decided that he, too, would meet with God every night in a quiet place with his Bible in hand. He made sure there were no distractions. Every night he read the scriptures and met with God and talked about his day and asked God for guidance in all things. He asks God how to succeed, what to do about problems at work, and also about whom he should marry.

Robert was not sure how to know the voice of God and did not feel that he was getting any clear direction from God. Actually, he preferred getting it from Uncle Leo. He told Uncle Leo this and Uncle Leo responded that it would take time and patience. Uncle Leo pointed out that only Joshua had the faith and patience to establish his own relationship with God. So, Robert started his one on one relationship with God by faith.

9. It bothered Robert that his mother remarked that he, Robert, was getting a bit arrogant and scornful, so he asked God about this during his "tent of meeting" time. Robert read over and over this scripture:

Proverbs 16:18 *Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall. (KJV)*

10. So as time went on, Robert was reading about Moses and the tent of meeting and Joshua, and then he came to Numbers 12:3

Numbers 12:3 *(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.KJV)*

11. Robert, all of a sudden, saw clearly the answer to his arrogance problem: if he (Robert) stays close to God and meets with Him regularly, he will be humble, just like Moses. Moses was the most humble (meek) man on the face of the earth and he was the closest to God. Robert was excited; he believed that God spoke to him and Robert actually had two-way communication with God. Now he was beginning to know God's voice. He rushed out to see Uncle Leo and told him the good news. This is the beginning of Robert's true success.

12. Please break up into groups and discuss the following questions:

why would God want to meet personally with you?

Do you have the courage to speak directly with God, or would you rather have someone else do it for you?

Are there questions you would like to ask God?

How can you have a "tent of meeting?"

Do you recall any other scriptures that support the "Tent of Meeting principle?"

Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Revelation 3:21 He that overcometh, I will give to him to sit down with me in my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father in his throne. (ASV words of Jesus in red)

13. The next day, at work, when Robert and Nadia were counting coffee money, Nadia invited Robert for dinner with her family. Remember, Nadia is Robert's boss's daughter. Could this dinner help Robert's path to success? Could it be hurt Robert's path to success?

14. Robert was anxious to meet with God that evening so he could discuss and prepare for the dinner.

15. In the next lessons we will see what happens at the dinner with Nadia and her parents and what happens with Robert's relationship with Nadia and Sylvie.