

With All Your Heart – Ray Vander Laan

Session Four: By Every Word – Striking the Rock

DVD Notes

- A. God trains leaders to lead by the power of the word
- B. Miriam dies; water becomes a problem – again
- C. God instructs Moses to speak to the rock
- D. Severe consequences for Moses' disobedience
- E. Be careful how you lead – remember the power of the word
- F. Flawed but not a failure

Faith Lesson

Many of us find it difficult to hear God speak because we rarely experience silence and do not set aside time to hear him reveal his words to us. Literally, we hear traffic, television, radio, people, talking, elevator music, cell phones ringing. Metaphorically, jobs, families, hobbies, and friends grasp our attention, making it difficult for us to focus on God and hear his voice – listen, learn, and obey his words.

- 1) In Psalm 46:10, God commands: “Be still, and know that I am God.” When was the last time you did this? Make sure you set aside time during the coming week to “be still.” To begin, consider the following:
 - a. Think about the great lengths to which God went in order to cancel the cultural “noise” that had hindered his people from hearing (obeying) his words. What effects might the literal and metaphorical “noises” in your life be having on your ability to hear and obey God’s words?
 - b. What does stillness look like in your culture, and how do you cultivate it in your life?
 - c. Where might you need to go in order to find some “desert silence” so that you can hear God’s words more clearly?
 - d. When you know that God is God, how does that influence your life – your thoughts, words, and actions?
- 2) Are God’s words important enough to you that you would ask him to give you a “desert,” so that they become as significant in your life as they did for the Israelites in the desert? Why or why not?
- 3) What steps will you take this week to quiet your soul and listen to God’s voice?