

# Exodus 33:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.

## Analysis

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**And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence**—Moses' response reveals his priorities: no presence, no progress. He refuses success without God, blessing without the Blessor, promised land without the Promising One. Notice 'with me' becomes 'carry us'—Moses intercedes for the people, not himself alone. This bold prayer demonstrates that apparent success without God's presence equals spiritual failure. Moses would rather stay at Sinai with God than enter Canaan without Him. This priority echoes Christ's promise: 'I am with you always' (Matthew 28:20).

## Historical Context

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This statement comes after God's promise in v.14, showing Moses wasn't satisfied with a personal guarantee but sought corporate restoration. His role as mediator meant he couldn't accept blessing that didn't extend to all Israel.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. Would you rather remain where you are with God's presence than advance without Him?
2. How does Moses' intercession for the people model Christ's high priestly prayer for us (John 17)?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיֹּאמֶר	אֵל יְיָ	אִם	אֵין	פָּנֶיךָ	אֵל הֵלֶךְ יָם	
And he said	H413	H518	H369	unto him If thy presence	go	H408
H559				H6440	H1980	
וְלֹא תִשָּׂא עִמָּנוּ			מִצָּה:			
not with me carry us not up			H2088			
H5927						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 34:9** (Parallel theme): And he said, If now I have found grace in thy sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray thee, go among us; for it is a stiffnecked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for thine inheritance.

**Exodus 33:3** (Parallel theme): Unto a land flowing with milk and honey: for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people: lest I consume thee in the way.

**Psalms 4:6** (Parallel theme): There be many that say, Who will shew us any good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.