

EXODUS

REDEEMED FOR
RELATIONSHIP

WINTER / 2024
GOSPEL CITY STUDIES

GOSPEL CITY CHURCH

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OVERVIEW

The goal of this study is to help better equip you to be a life-long studier, lover, and obeyer of the Word of God. For God's Word is to the soul what food is to the body. It is sweeter than honey and more precious than gold. It contains all we need for life and godliness. It is holy, perfect, and all together true. It has the power to raise the dead and sanctify sinners into the image of Christ. Blessed is the person who meditates on it day and night.

Our focus for this study will be Exodus 16-40. As we saw in chapters 1-15, the purpose of the exodus was "so that you may know that I am Yahweh." Through the ten plagues and the parting of the Red Sea, the Egyptians came to know the Lord as Judge, and the Israelites came to know Him as Savior. But as we will see in Exodus 16-40, God's plan for Israel goes far beyond simply knowing *of* Him. The purpose of the exodus is so that they may *know* Him. From the wilderness testing to the giving of the law, the building of the tabernacle and the descending of God's glorious presence, it all comes together to show that Israel was redeemed for relationship. Our prayer is that this study will help you grow into a more intimate relationship with your Redeemer who has tabernacled in your heart.

With this goal in mind, we have divided each week's personal study time into five sections: Observe, Interpret, Reflect, Pray, and Apply. Here are some tips for how to approach each aspect of the study:

*“Open my eyes that I may behold
wondrous things out of your law.”
-Psalm 119:18*

OBSERVE

Before we try to observe, we need to pray. Psalm 119:18 should be the posture of our heart every time we open our Bibles. Bible study is so much more than an intellectual exercise. Apart from God’s grace we will not have eyes to see or a heart that understands.

With that said, good readers are good question-askers. So as you read, be asking questions of the text. Every word is inspired. Every detail matters.

Allow the observation questions to guide you into more questions. Rest assured that you will never ever observe everything that there is to observe. The wisdom and glory of the Word of God is a bottomless ocean. Keep looking. There is always more to see.

INTERPRET

In your flesh you will be tempted to skim through the passage rather than thoroughly read through it again. Resist that temptation! Reading the Bible is not about accumulating information; it is about spiritual transformation.

There is always more to see, more to believe, more to obey. We cannot read a passage too many times. As we enter the interpret phase, we are just getting started.

After reading through the passage for a second time, our goal will be to start to interpret the passage in its proper context. When it comes to Bible interpretation, context is king. Therefore, always be asking, “How does it fit?” How does this sentence fit with the one that comes before it?

How does this paragraph/chapter fit in the surrounding context? How do the doctrines and themes in this passage fit in the metanarrative of Scripture? Asking these interpretive questions is the key to beholding the glory of the divine logic of the Word.

In order to guide you in these interpretive questions each week we will provide a “zoom in” question followed by a couple “zoom out” questions. Zoom in to discern what the passage is about. Then zoom out to see how it fits in the context of the narrative. Just as climbing mountains provides one with epic views, each zoom out section will provide “observation decks” that overlook the grand narrative of the epic story of the Bible.

REFLECT

Reflecting encourages us to be curious about what this particular Scripture means in the context of our own journey. We've seen how the story fits into the big picture of Scripture, but how does it fit into your story? We ask questions like "What is God telling me about Himself here?" and "What is God telling me about myself here?" Reflecting is a step toward allowing the Word of God to change us. We take the truth and personally interact with it.

A time of reflecting often exposes us. You may find in this step an area of sin in your life or a new conviction you've not felt before. It is tempting to skip this step or skim through the day's work. Be intentional with this time; you will find it may be the most transformational step.

An important part of reflecting is meditation. As you reflect on God's Word, give yourself time to think about what you've uncovered in your study so far. Meditating on God's Word should lead you toward worship. Perhaps give yourself time during reflection to memorize a passage that jumps out to you or to listen to some worship music. Be prepared to respond.

PRAY

We suggest that prayer be done with an open Bible whenever possible. When you come to the prayer section, you will be guided in praying Scripture. What better vocabulary to use when talking to God than the very words He inspired!

Before you spend time in prayer, you may want to glance back at what you've observed and interpreted and consider how you've reflected on the passage. Recall how this passage impacted you and your understanding of God and His Word.

In prayer, find what works best for you. You may want to keep a prayer journal or write out a few specific things you want to remember to pray over. You might want to review what you are praying over and take a walk as you pray.

Some can find prayer time intimidating. Remember, prayer is simply talking to God, and because of Jesus we have direct access to the throne room. We can have confidence to draw near in prayer; it is here we receive mercy and find grace.

APPLY

As students of the Scriptures our aim is to be doers of the Word and not just hearers. Therefore, don't merely learn for the sake of knowing; learn for the sake of loving and living and doing!

In order to help with this, we will attempt to apply each passage through the framework of 2 Timothy 3:16. For *all* Scripture is indeed profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness.

With this framework in mind, we must consider what each text is teaching us. What does it reveal about the doctrine of God, man, sin, etc.?

We must also consider how the text is reproving us. Reproof goes hand in hand with teaching doctrine. The ministry of the Word is not limited to revealing what is true; it extends into the confrontation of what we believe that is false. Thus, hearers of the Word are simultaneously taught what to believe and rebuked/convicted regarding what they currently believe that is false or incomplete.

In addition to teaching and reproof, we must consider how the text is correcting us. The word in 2 Timothy 3:16 translated "correction" was often used in classical Greek to refer to the reconstruction of buildings. It literally means "to restore to an upright position." Therefore, the Bible is the standard of truth. It rebukes everything that is in us that is ungodly. But it doesn't just tear us down, expose our ungodliness, and leave us in guilt and shame. It has the power to build us back up into men and women of God. Read each week asking how the text is correcting you/reconstructing you into Christlikeness.

Lastly, we must consider how the text is profitable for training for righteousness. The ministry of the Word does not merely reconstruct us to be capable of godliness. It actually trains us to do so. The aim is the action of righteousness, not just the capacity. Ask yourself each week how you can be a doer of the Word and not just a hearer. If we study every passage with this framework in mind, then every week will indeed be "profitable."

PARTICIPATING IN THE WEEKLY GATHERING

Every week, following your dedicated personal study of the Word, we will gather together with a shared purpose—to “stir up one another to love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24-25). Our collective aim during these gatherings is to minister the Word to each other so that we can collectively grow in maturity toward Christ who is our Head.

TEACHING / We will begin each week with a time of dedicated teaching, sitting under the authority of the preached Word. Our teaching times will model how to faithfully exposit and apply the Word.

TABLE DISCUSSIONS / One of the best ways to grow in what you are learning is by telling others. There is much we can learn from each other’s walk with Jesus. After each teaching time, we will break into table groups for applicational discussion and prayer.

These will be active spaces to engage each other with what was gleaned in your personal study and to respond to what was taught that day. It is also a time to encourage obedience and accountability to what the text is teaching and reproving us in. Be open and vulnerable. Anchored in the Scriptural text, share what God is doing in your life. Everyone is expected to participate, but don’t dominate the conversation.

We’ll close each time in prayer together. Praise God for who He is, repent to one another, ask the Lord to continue to work in you, and yield the results to Him.

INTRODUCTION TO EXODUS

Have you ever been a part of something that doesn't seem to be going according to plan? You push ahead for a while, but eventually the opposition begins to outweigh the lure of the destination and you start to ask, "Is this a good idea or should we turn back?" That is precisely what the Israelites felt as they left Egypt and began their journey toward the Promised Land. They had just witnessed an epic take down of their oppressors, miraculous plagues and liberation, and an unforgettable exodus. With the taste of freedom on their tongues, Israel looked ahead. Now they found themselves at the foot of the mountain of God, and questioning if embarking on this journey was such a good idea after all.

The Israelites sometimes get a bad rap. They *were* flawed, after all. They were grumblers, idol worshippers, and really bad at obeying the simplest of instructions. Yet, God had not only promised them a land flowing with milk and honey, but He had chosen them. And it is at the start of this journey through the wilderness that the people of Israel began to understand what it means to be chosen by a Holy God.

In Exodus 1-15 we learn who God is through His mighty acts of judgment and salvation. He introduces Himself in a personal way and expresses His attributes by freeing His people from slavery that bound them from freely worshiping Him. Now they have freedom to worship, but freedom is not without responsibility. God has a plan for this nation, and in Exodus 16-40 He begins to define the purpose and responsibilities of the freedom He offers to the people He loves. His heart is to dwell with created man, to make a home in the midst of them, and to invite those He has redeemed into intimacy with Him. Sure, they were thrilled about what they were saved from, but now they were to learn what it was God had saved them to.

The people would often question if this was a good idea, and if the destination was worth the price. But God never once looks back. He didn't then, and He won't now. The Lord rescues His people, proving that He is worthy of their worship. He makes a way for sinful man to be with Holy God. The destination is indeed worth the struggle, the hardship, and the opposition, because the destination is the eternal presence of the one true God. It's a restoration of what mankind was designed for. The Israelites at the foot of Mount Sinai give us a glimpse of the hope we have for our own eternal destination—unhindered presence with God Almighty.



OUR LORD PROVIDES OUR DAILY BREAD

01

OBSERVE DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 15:22-16:36

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (Exodus 1-15)? In which ways does the context help you understand the passage?

(04) Why does God rescue Israel from cruel Egyptian masters and then immediately give them commands to obey?

INTERPRET DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 15:22-16:36

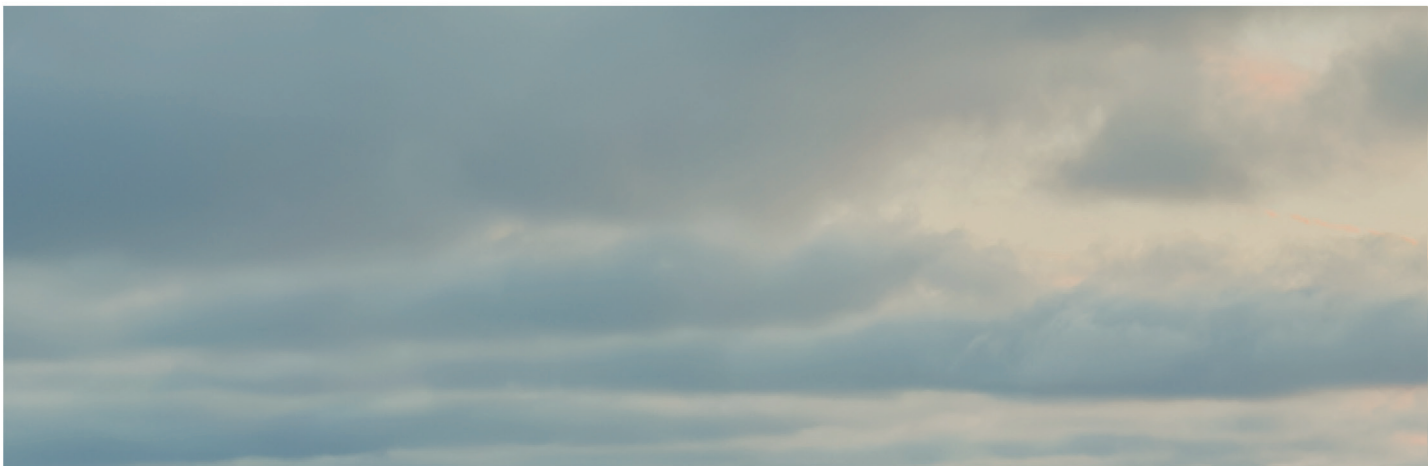
ZOOM IN / In Exodus 15:25 and 16:4, God says that He is *testing* the Israelites. What is the nature and purpose of the test? How do the Israelites respond to the test?

ZOOM OUT / Read Deuteronomy 8:1-10 and Matthew 4:1-4. According to these passages, what is the relationship between physical food and spiritual food? With those thoughts in mind, which spiritual principles was God trying to teach Israel through the manna "test"?

ZOOM OUT / Read John 6:22-59.

Note the context: Jesus just fed the 5,000.

According to this passage, how does God's provision of manna from heaven help us understand the person and work of Christ? What does Jesus mean when He says "I am the bread of life"?



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 15:22-16:36

(01) Recall some of the things God did for the Israelites in chapters 1-15. Do you think their grumbings are justifiable? Based on ways God has provided for you, is *your* grumbling ever justifiable?

(02) What causes you to grumble? Who do you tend to grumble to? Write down a few of the areas you tend to grumble about and the ways you justify those grumbings.

(03) How has God provided for your every need, physically and spiritually? How might these reminders inform your heart when it starts to grumble?

PRAY

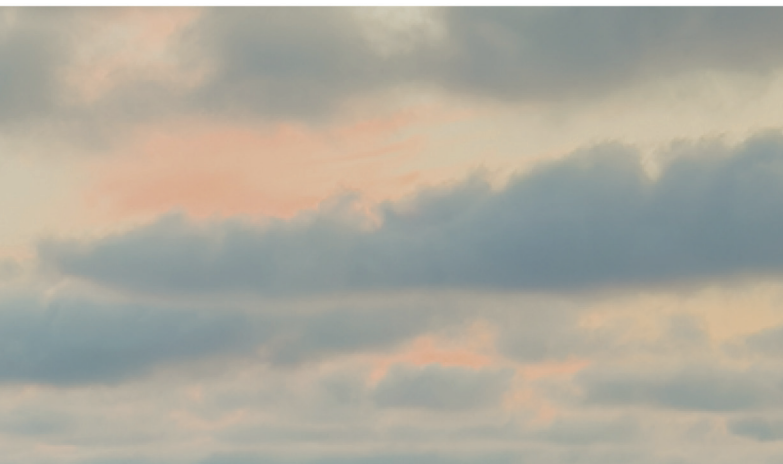
DAY 04

PRAY / Exodus 15:22-16:36

(01) Ask God to reveal areas in your heart that are doubting His promises to you or losing faith in ways He has already proven trustworthy.

(02) Confess your grumbings to God of moments in your life that left you feeling bitter or lacking. Ask God to show you how He uses those times to stretch your faith.

(03) Thank God for the provision He has blessed you with. Write down some specific areas He has provided for you.



APPLY

DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

Has God ever had you in a season of "testing"? How did you respond to the test?

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind, or actions?

Based on your reflections from this week's study, what does your grumbling reveal about your view of God's character and sovereignty?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

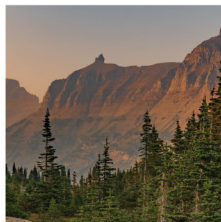
EXODUS 16:12

YOU SHALL
BE FILLED
WITH BREAD.

THEN YOU
SHALL KNOW
THAT I AM
THE LORD
YOUR GOD.

OUR LORD ALWAYS PROVIDES A WAY OUT

WEEK (02) of 10
Redeemed for Relationship



02

OBSERVE DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 17:1-18:27

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

Consider the examples of how things have escalated from chapter 16.

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (specifically Exodus 16)? In which ways does the context help you understand the passage?

(04) Why do you think God allows the Israelites to get hungry and thirsty *before* He provides for them? Why not just be proactive and provide all their needs before they need them?

INTERPRET DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

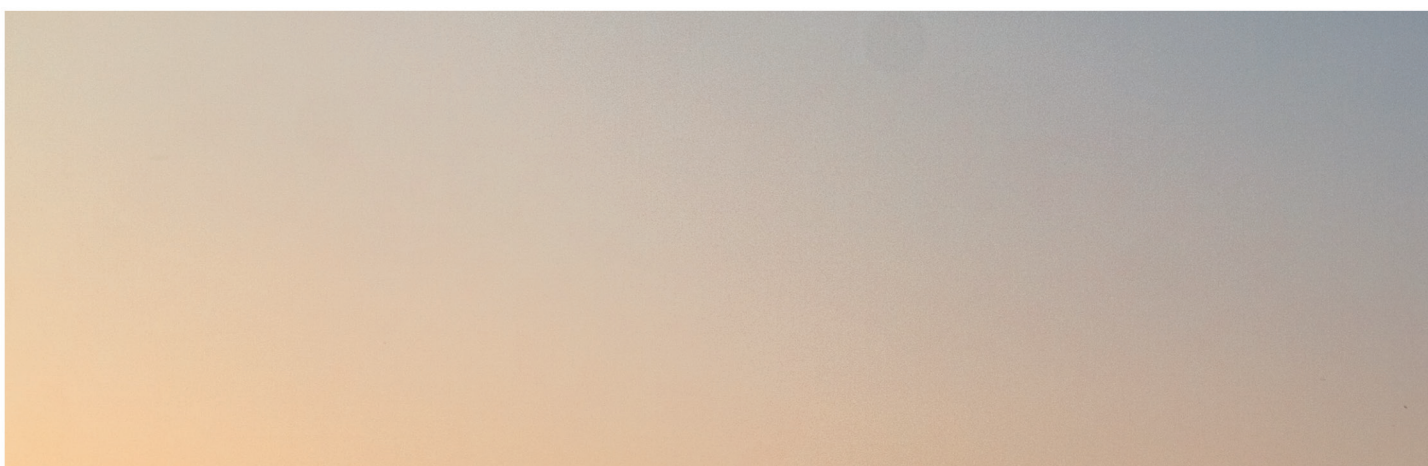
READ / Exodus 17:1-18:27

ZOOM IN / Exodus 15:22-19:1 records Israel's journey from Egypt to Mt. Sinai. What are the various problems and roadblocks that they face on the way? List the ways in which God graciously provides in the midst of these "roadblocks."

ZOOM OUT / Read Ps. 95:6-11 / Heb. 3:7-4:13. According to these passages, what should we learn from the grumbling Israelites?

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 12:12 / Ex. 15:11 / Ex. 18:10-11 / Ex. 20:1-2. Why does Jethro (a priest of Midian) confess that Yahweh (the God of Israel) is greater than all gods?

ZOOM OUT / Read 1 Cor. 10:1-5. What do you think Paul means when he says "the Rock was Christ"?



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 17:1-18:27

(01) How do you feel when you are in a season of wilderness, presented with a “roadblock” in your life, and lacking in basic needs?

(02) Constant grumbling is already proving a theme for the Israelites in Exodus. Is it a theme in your life? What are the recurring grumblings that reveal your heart?

(03) Read Exodus 17:7. Why did Moses choose the name of the place they drew water? In which ways do you test God and ask, “Is the Lord among me?”

PRAY

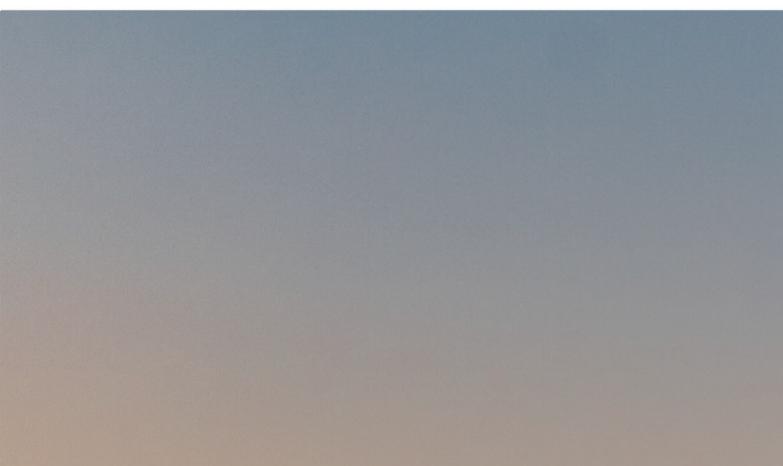
DAY 04

PRAY / Exodus 17:1-18:27

(01) Acknowledge any roadblocks you’ve experienced recently. Ask God to reveal the root of your reactions to these roadblocks.

(02) Seek God’s presence in your seasons of discomfort. Thank God for His promised presence to you, and that He is among you.

(03) Praise God for His provision and His protection! He provided for the Israelites with food and water, but He also stood in the way of what they truly deserved and understood their weaknesses, just as He does today! He provides living water and bread of life for us, but He also sent Jesus Christ to stand in defense of our shortcomings.



APPLY

DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

How has God proved Himself to be faithful to always provide a way out of any problem or roadblock you face in your life? Write down a specific example.

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind, or actions?

Are you ever prone to grumble about what God has not yet provided, rather than focus on ways He already has? What does this action reveal about your beliefs and desires?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

EXODUS 17:6

BEHOLD —
I WILL STAND
BEFORE YOU.



OUR LORD IS WORTHY TO BE FEARED

WEEK (03) of 10
Redeemed for Relationship

03

OBSERVE DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 19:1-20:21

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (Exodus 1-18)? In which ways does the context help you understand the passage?

(04) Why does God remind Israel how He graciously saved them?

e.g., Exodus 19:4-5 / 20:1-2 before He gives them commandments. Is the order (blessing then command) significant?

INTERPRET DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 19:1-20:21

ZOOM IN / Read each of the Ten Commandments through the lens of Exodus 20:2. What is the relationship between who God is ("Yahweh your God") and what He commands?

e.g., Exodus 1-15 proves that Yahweh alone is God. Therefore, the first commandment naturally follows that Israel should worship Him and Him alone.

ZOOM IN / Why does God bestow the Ten Commandments with a thundering voice in the midst of smoke and thunder, etc.? Is there a relationship between what we know about the nature of God and how we respond to the commandments of God? Explain.

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 19:4-6 / 1 Pt. 2:9-10 / Rev. 5:8-10. What do priests do? What does it mean to be a kingdom of priests? Based on this job description, what parallels do you see between God's design for Israel and God's design for the Church?

Consider Adam's role as a king-priest in Genesis 1:27-28. How is God accomplishing through the Church what He originally designed for Adam and Israel?



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 19:1-20:21

(01) Yahweh is setting up the Ten Commandments for the people with verse 2, reminding them that they have already been saved from bondage and slavery. What bondage and slavery has God brought you out of? Reflect on how God has blessed you before you were obedient to His ways.

(02) Simply take some time to imagine the grandeur of the moment at the foot of the mountain (Exodus 19:9-13, 16-25 / 20:18-21). Meditate on God's holiness and power and the fear of the people. Write down a few things about this moment that you'd like to remember about God and the people's response as we continue through Exodus.

(03) How does being a chosen people and a treasured possession impact your view of yourself and the people around you? What implications does this fact have on the way you should live?

PRAY

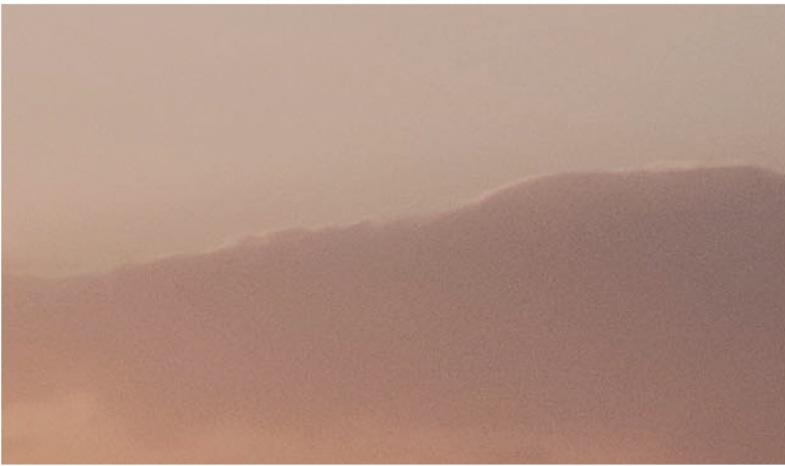
DAY 04

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 19:1-20:21

(01) Thank God for His mercy! Express to Him your gratitude for His salvation from the bondage of sin and death.

(02) Ask God to show you how you can be a participant in His chosen, priestly nation. How would He have you proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into marvelous light?



APPLY

DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind, or actions?

Consider your heart through the mirror of the Ten Commandments. What do you see?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

(05) How has the study of the Ten Commandments deepened your understanding of and appreciation for the gospel of Jesus Christ?

EXODUS 20:20

DO NOT FEAR,
FOR GOD HAS
COME TO
TEST YOU,
THAT THE
FEAR OF HIM
MAY BE
BEFORE YOU,
THAT YOU
MAY NOT SIN.

READING TIP /
God gave Israel the Ten Commandments so that they could be a holy nation, imaging God to the world as a kingdom of priests (see Exodus 19:4-6).

Each of the laws in chapters 21-23 provide case study expositions of the Ten Commandments so that Israel has further instruction about how to be a holy nation.

Therefore, as you read, ask yourself, “Which one of the Ten Commandments is this law elaborating on?”

WEEK (04) of 10
Redeemed for Relationship

OUR LORD
CALLS US TO BE
HOLY

04

OBSERVE DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 20:22-21:32

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (specifically Exodus 19-20)? In which ways does the context help you understand the passage?

(04) Why do you think God gives laws that regulate slavery rather than abolish it? Do these laws about slavery seem to promote racial and social injustice or guard against it?

INTERPRET DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 20:22-21:32

ZOOM IN / Go through each law and case study, then write down which one of the Ten Commandments is being expounded upon.

e.g., Exodus 21:1-6 is an exposition of "you shall not steal".
Exodus 21:12-14 is an exposition of "you shall not murder".

ZOOM IN / Go through each law and case study, then write down what principles of justice you see that apply to New Covenant Christians today.

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 19:4-6. How do these laws help cultivate an environment for Israel to be a holy nation? How might a nation who obeys these laws help other nations know what God is like?



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 20:22-21:32

(01) Why do you think God highlights how He has communicated with Moses and the Israelites before giving the laws about idols and altars? What relationship do you see in these laws?

(02) How do you think the laws about slaves articulate how God values life and humankind? Consider Romans 13:8-10 as you reflect on your answer.

(03) Do these laws seem practical or specific? Why do you think they are given this way?

PRAY

DAY 04

PRAY / Exodus 20:22-21:32

(01) Remember how God has been present and personal in your life. Thank Him for His blessings in your life.

(02) Confess any ways that you have had other gods before Yahweh or worshiped any carved images.

Carved images and idols in our culture are not typically actual statues or figures. God's point in these commands is to be careful to not hold anything as equal to God, or to worship the created above the Creator.

(03) Ask God to reveal any lack of love in your heart toward your neighbor. Confess ways you have loved yourself above your neighbor or ways you may have caused harm.



APPLY

DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind, or actions?

How have the principles of justice revealed through these laws exposed areas in your life where you participate in or are indifferent to injustice?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

EXODUS 20:24

IN EVERY
PLACE WHERE
I CAUSE MY
NAME TO BE
REMEMBERED

I WILL COME
TO YOU AND
BLESS YOU.

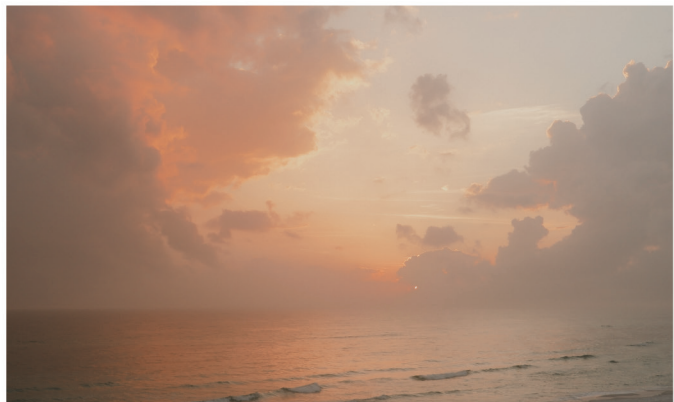
WEEK FOUR

OUR LORD CALLS US TO BE HOLY

READING TIP /
God gave Israel the Ten Commandments so that they could be a holy nation, imaging God to the world as a kingdom of priests (see Exodus 19:4-6).

Each of the laws in chapters 21-23 provide case study expositions of the Ten Commandments so that Israel has further instruction about how to be a holy nation.

Therefore, as you read, ask yourself, “Which one of the Ten Commandments is this law elaborating on?”



05

OBSERVE DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 21:33-23:19

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (specifically Exodus 19-20)? In which ways does the context help you understand the passage?

(04) Why does God want Israel to remember that they were sojourners in the land of Egypt (see 22:21 / 23:9, 15)? What does remembering their past have to do with obedience in the present and future?

INTERPRET DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 21:33-23:19

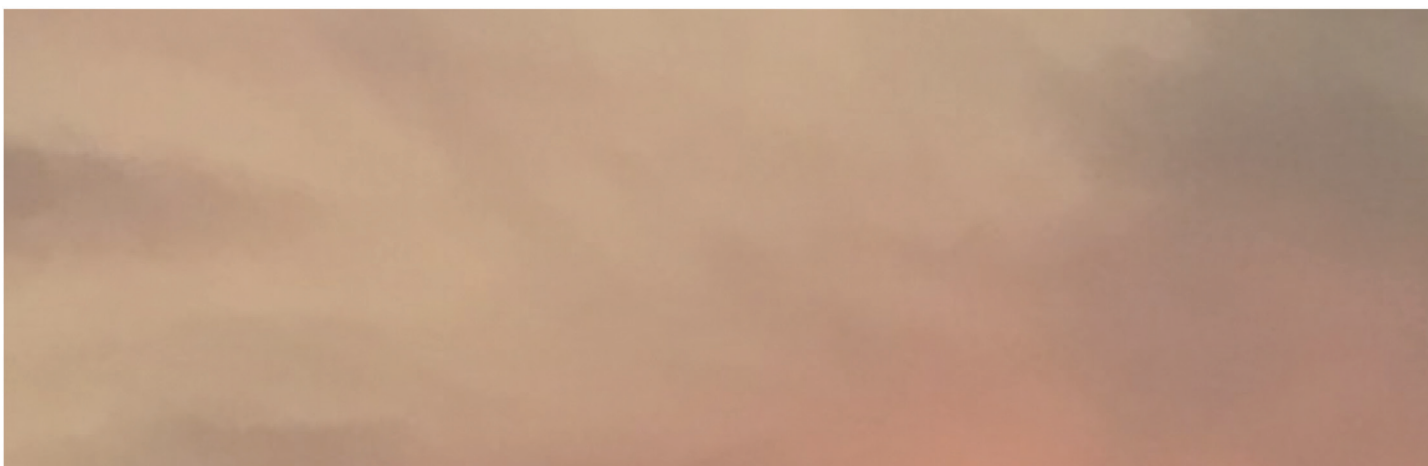
ZOOM IN / Go through each law and case study, then write down which one of the Ten Commandments is being expounded upon.

e.g., Exodus 23:10-12 is an exposition of "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy".

ZOOM IN / Go through each law and case study, then write down what principles of justice you see that apply to New Covenant Christians today.

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 19:4-6. How do these laws help cultivate an environment for Israel to be a holy nation? How might a nation who obeys these laws help other nations know what God is like?

ZOOM OUT / Read Gen. 2:1-3 / Ex. 20:8-11 / Mt. 11:28-30 / Jn. 19:30-31. According to the New Testament, how does Jesus fulfill for us what the Old Testament Sabbath laws pointed to?



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 21:33-23:19

(01) What do you suppose is obvious about the Israelites that requires the laws about restitution?

Notice the many “when” and “if” statements throughout Exodus 21-23.

(02) Which principles are being driven by the laws about social responsibility, justice, and mercy? What sort of characteristics does someone who lives by these principles exhibit?

Consider Jesus’ response to these commandments in His Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-6:4).

(03) Why do you think Sabbath and festivals are important to God?

PRAY

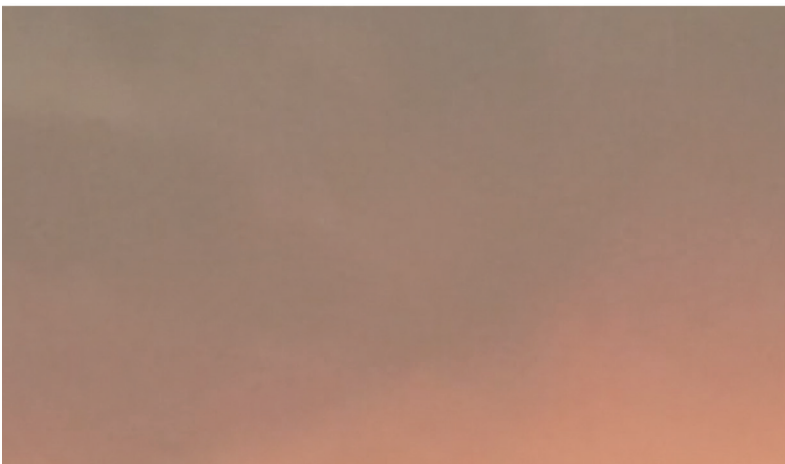
DAY 04

PRAY / Exodus 21:33-23:19

(01) Ask God for the humility to admit your *whens* and *ifs* and thank Him for His grace to make a way for your restoration.

(02) Confess to God the heart posture that exhibits characteristics that don’t align with His holiness.

(03) Consider carving out a Sabbath in your week and devote some time in prayer to seek His rest and presence more intentionally.



APPLY

DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind, or actions?

How have the principles of justice revealed through these laws exposed areas in your life where you participate in or are indifferent to injustice?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

EXODUS 23:13

PAY
ATTENTION
TO ALL THAT
I HAVE SAID
TO YOU.



WEEK (06) of 10
Redeemed for Relationship

OUR LORD IS
BRINGING HEAVEN
TO EARTH

06

OBSERVE DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 23:20-24:18

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (Exodus 1-23)? In what ways does the context help you understand the passage?

Consider the series of events so far. Israel has gone from slavery, to freedom, to receiving the law, to worship and fellowship. What does the order of events teach us about God's goals for redemption?

(04) Why does God give different people different levels of access to His presence? Is this detail significant?

INTERPRET DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 23:20-24:18

ZOOM IN / This passage records multiple epic moments in the context of redemptive history. List each one and explain the significance.

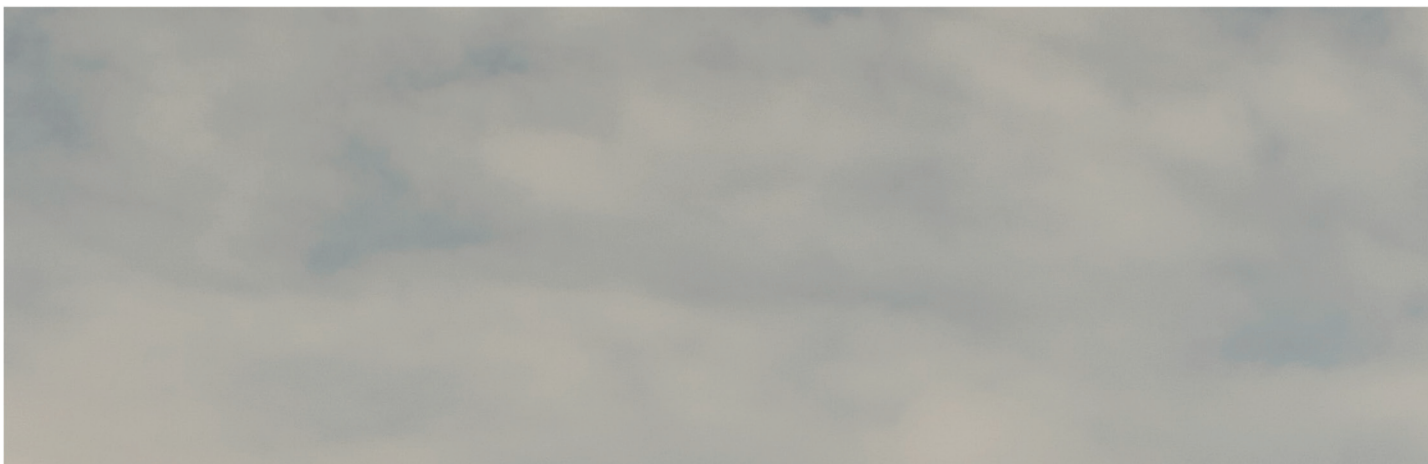
e.g., Exodus 24:4 records Moses writing the Bible itself!

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 24:6-8 / Lk. 22:19-20 / Heb. 9:11-28. According to the author of Hebrews, how does the Old Covenant ratification ceremony—recorded in Exodus 24—help us understand what Jesus accomplished through His death on the cross?

ZOOM OUT / From the Garden of Eden, to Mt. Sinai, to Mt. Zion, throughout Scripture, God's dwelling place is always on a mountain. This is where heaven and earth overlap.

See Eze. 28:13-14 / Ex. 24:9-11 / Ps. 48:1-2 / Is. 2:2-3 / Joel 3:17 / Zec. 8:3.

According to Revelation 21:1-27, what was true of Eden, Sinai, and Zion will be true of the *entire* New Creation. With this reality in mind, how does Exodus 24:9-11 help us understand God's plan to restore and redeem what was lost at the Fall?



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 23:20-24:18

(01) What do you think is significant about Israel's obedience, the protection of the angel of the Lord, and the "I will" promises found in Exodus 23:20-33?

(02) Consider the response of the people in Exodus 24:3, 7. Do you think they were fully committed to this obedience in their hearts? Was their agreement empty or sincere? Explain your answer.

(03) How does the big picture of Eden restored in the New Creation give you hope for tomorrow?

PRAY

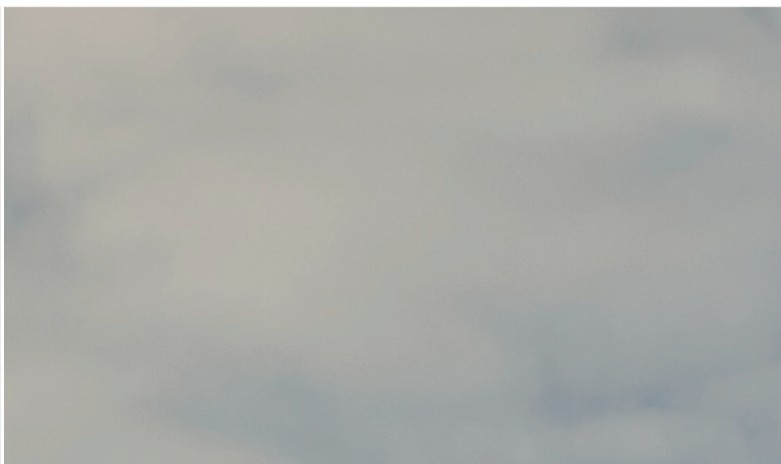
DAY 04

PRAY / Exodus 23:20-24:18

(01) Praise God that He is a covenant-keeping God! Specifically tell how you are grateful for His faithfulness to make a way for us to know and dwell with Him.

(02) Search your heart for any area that doesn't sing out, "All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." Confess your disobedience and make your request for strength in obedience.

(03) Rejoice that God will finish what He started! Take some time to imagine life with Him in the New Creation, and tell Him what you are excited about.



APPLY DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind or actions?

This study has helped us see that the goal of creation is for heaven and earth to become one so that God can dwell with His people. How does God's goal for creation redefine or refine the goals you have for your life?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

EXODUS 24:16

THE GLORY
OF THE LORD
DWELT ON
MOUNT SINAI.

OUR LORD
IS MAKING
A WAY TO

DWELL

— AMONG US

WEEK (07) of 10
Redeemed for Relationship

READING TIP / Exodus 25:8 and 29:44-46 reveal that the purpose of the tabernacle is to make a way for God to dwell with His people. What hasn't been true since the Garden of Eden is becoming a reality again. The tabernacle is Eden restored. But there is one major difference—sin! This is the purpose of the outer courts, curtains, priests, sacrificial system, etc., so that holy God can dwell with sinful man without incinerating them. Therefore, as we read each section of the narrative we need to be asking how each specific instruction plays a role in enabling holy God to dwell among His sinful people.

07

OBSERVE DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 25:1-40

(01) How do the instructions for the Ark of the Covenant, the table for bread, and the golden lampstand help accomplish the goal of holy God dwelling with sinful man?

READ / Exodus 26:1-37

(02) How do the instructions for curtains, frames, veils, and screens help accomplish the goal of holy God dwelling with sinful man?

READ / Exodus 27:1-21

(03) How do the instructions for the altar and the outer court help accomplish the goal of holy God dwelling with sinful man?

OBSERVE DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 28:1-43

(01) How do the instructions for the priests and their holy garments help accomplish the goal of holy God dwelling with sinful man?

READ / Exodus 29:1-46

(02) How do the instructions for the consecration of priests help accomplish the goal of holy God dwelling with sinful man?

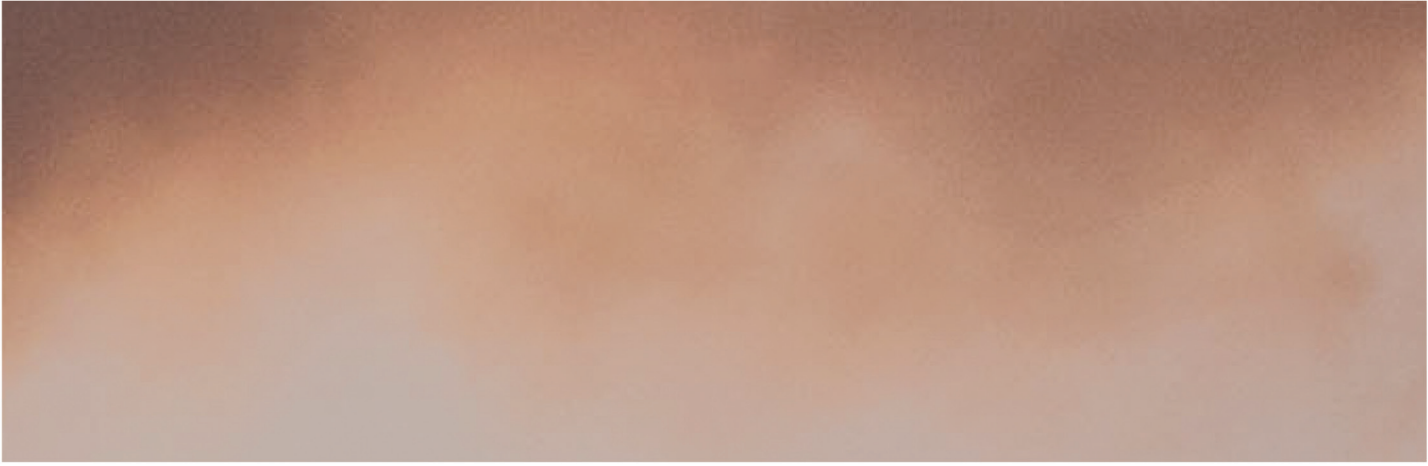
READ / Exodus 30:1-31:11

(03) How do the instructions for the altar of incense, the census tax, the bronze basin, the anointing oil, and the Spirit-filled craftsmen help accomplish the goal of holy God dwelling with sinful man?

READ / Exodus 31:12-18

(04) What is the relationship between keeping the Sabbath and dwelling with God?

Hint: Just as God set apart one day to make it holy, He set apart one people to make them holy.



INTERPRET

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 30:1-10 / Lev. 10:1-7 / Heb. 4:14-16 / Heb. 10:19-23 / Heb. 12:28-29. What do these passages teach us about how we ought to draw near to God? Do believers today need to fear that God might consume them with fire if they worship Him in a way that He has not prescribed? Explain.

ZOOM OUT / Read Heb. 9:1-28. According to Hebrews, how does the tabernacle and its worship practices prepare us to understand what Christ accomplished through His death on the cross?

ZOOM OUT / Consider Heb. 8:1-5, 9:11-12, 23-24. These verses reveal that the tabernacle was a copy (or replica) of God's dwelling place in heaven. Why would God ask Moses to construct a replica of His heavenly throne room? What does this teach us about the purpose of the tabernacle?

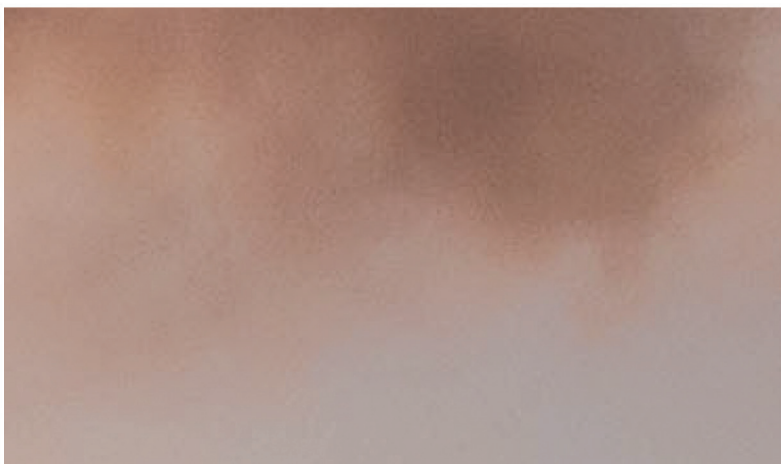
ZOOM OUT / Read Gen. 3:24 / Ex. 26:1, 31-33 / Mt. 27:50-51 / Heb. 10:19-20. What is the theological significance of cherubim being woven into the curtain separating the holy place from the most holy place?

REFLECT

DAY 04

(01) Reflect on God's intense holiness and the access we now have to Him through Jesus. Revisit Hebrews 4:14-16 and 10:19-23. Does Jesus' sacrifice hold more weight for you today as you meditate on these scriptures?

(02) Read 1 Corinthians 3:16. What have you learned about the structure and expectations of the tabernacle this week that illuminates your understanding of your body as a temple and a dwelling place of the Holy Spirit?



PRAY + APPLY

DAY 05

(01) Examine your heart. Does it reflect that of one like Exodus 25:2? Express to God how your heart is moved to contribute to His worship.

(02) Praise God for His desire to dwell in our midst, and for the instructions on how to make it happen! Remember Hebrews 4:16, and take advantage of the invitation to draw near!

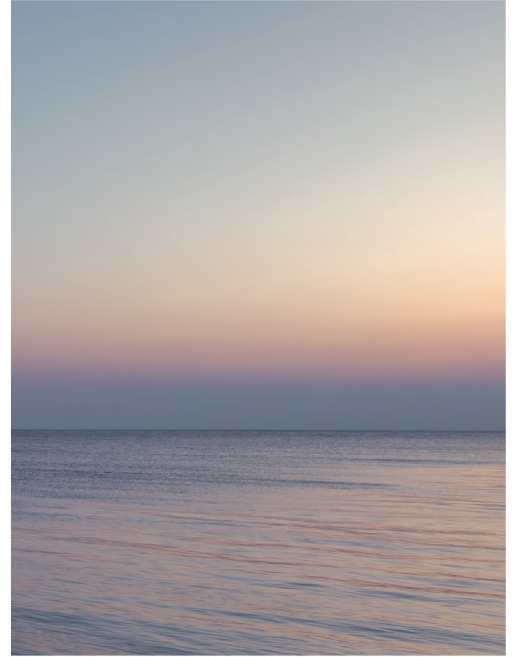
(03) How has Exodus 25:1-31:17 been profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training unto righteousness for you this week?

(04) As you have surveyed some of the tabernacle's specific structure and examined your own temple (your body and your conduct), which areas of personal holiness need addressed? How are you honoring God with your temple?

EXODUS 25:8

AND LET
THEM
MAKE A
SANCTUARY,
THAT I
MAY DWELL
IN THEIR
MIDST.

OUR LORD WILL BY NO MEANS CLEAR THE GUILTY



WEEK (08) of 10
Redeemed for Relationship

08

OBSERVE DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 32:1-33:23

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (specifically Exodus 1-31)? In which ways does the context help you understand the passage?

In which ways does the context help highlight the tragic nature of Israel's idolatry?

(04) Why do the people ask Aaron to make a golden calf? After all God has done for them, why are they so quick to forsake Him?

Look for clues in the text.

INTERPRET DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 32:1-33:23

ZOOM IN / How does Moses respond to Israel's idolatry? How does God respond? Are their responses overreactions? Why or why not?

ZOOM IN / Moses responds to God's response by interceding for Israel. According to Moses, why should God relent and have mercy on Israel?

He makes three different arguments.

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 20:1-6 / Dt. 4:15-31 / Ps. 115:1-18 / Is. 44:9-20 / Rom. 1:18-32. According to these passages, why is idolatry so sinful? What are the consequences of idolatry on those who worship idols?

ZOOM OUT / Read Rom. 8:31-34. What are some parallels between Moses' role as intercessor and Jesus' role as intercessor?



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 32:1-33:23

(01) Does Israel's behavior surprise you? Do you think they were being unfairly impatient or irrationally fearful? How do you see yourself in the behavior of Israel? How quickly do you turn aside toward your sin and idolatry?

(02) Can you identify any specific idols in your life—anything that is created, whether by human hands or created by the Creator? Consider the amount of power you give that thing, person, or idea over your life. Why do you think you run to these things?

(03) Reflect on God's words to Israel in Exodus 33:8 and then Moses' request of God in Exodus 33:15. These verses seem to portray we can't live with God, and we can't live without Him. How does Jesus offer a solution? Meditate on Romans 5:6-11 as you consider your answer.

PRAY

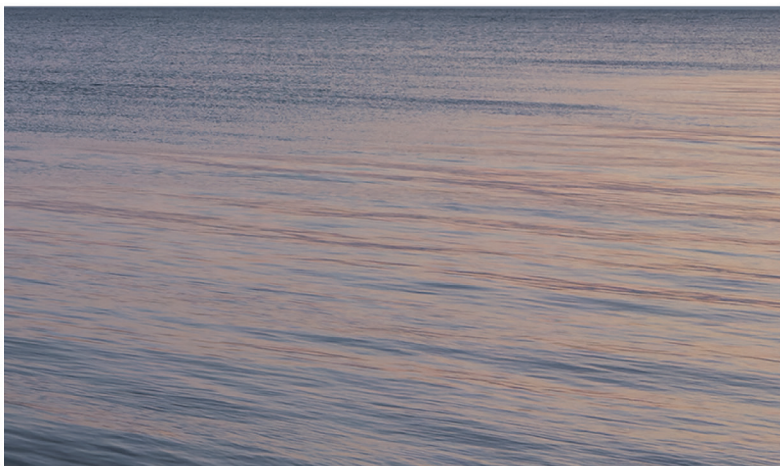
DAY 04

PRAY / Pray Exodus 32:1-33:23

(01) Confess to God areas in your life where you have exercised impatience or unbelief that has driven you to look to lesser things for your deliverance. In your confession, be more specific on your fears rather than what you have been running toward. Express to God your doubts.

(02) Confess your idols. Acknowledge to God how your idols break His heart, kindle His anger, and fall short of the greater gift He is offering—Himself.

(03) Thank God for His grace and mercy to send Jesus to intercede for you. Write a prayer of gratitude for your deliverance by His grace!



APPLY

DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind, or actions?

Who or what are you tempted to look to for deliverance, other than God?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

Consider Moses' and God's response to Israel's idolatry. How does their response compare with your response to your own idolatry?

(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

EXODUS 33:35

THE LORD
SENT A
PLAGUE ON
THE PEOPLE,
BECAUSE
THEY MADE
THE CALF.

OUR LORD
IS MERCIFUL &
GRACIOUS

WEEK (09) of 10
Redeemed for Relationship

SLOW TO ANGER
& ABOUNDING IN
STEADFAST LOVE

09

OBSERVE

DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 34:1-35

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (specifically Exodus 32-33)? In which ways does the context help you understand the passage?

What is the relationship between Moses asking to see God's glory and God proclaiming His name?

(04) Moses has already spent a lot of intimate time with God on the mountain. Why does he ask to see more of God?

INTERPRET

DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 34:1-35

ZOOM IN / Consider each word/phrase of Exodus 34:6-7 one at a time. In what ways does each aspect of God's name reveal His glory and goodness? What are some examples from Scripture where you see this nature and character proven to be true?

e.g., The thesis of Exodus 1-15 is "so that you may know that I am Yahweh" where He proves that He is what Exodus 34:6-7 says He is.

ZOOM OUT / Read Num. 14:18 / 2 Chr. 30:9 / Neh. 9:19 / Ps. 86:15, 103:8 / Is. 63:7 / Jonah 4:2 / Micah 7:18 / Nahum 1:2-3. Later biblical authors obviously consider Exodus 34:6-7 to be a very important passage. Why do you think it is so important?

ZOOM OUT / Read 2 Cor. 3:1-18. According to this passage, what are some of the many ways the New Covenant is superior to the Old Covenant?



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 34:1-35

(01) Reflect on each word/phrase of Exodus 34:6-7 in a personal way. Write down specific ways God has been merciful, gracious, slow to anger, etc., toward you.

(02) Compare Exodus 34:1 / 2 Corinthians 3:1-6 / Ezekiel 36:26-28 / Jeremiah 31:33-34. Consider the goodness of God's plan to write His laws on our hearts, bringing our dead hearts to life.

(03) Moses' interactions with God not only changed him as a person, but it changed his countenance! Is there evidence in your life that you value the intentionality of seeking the counsel of God? How might you be changed as you encounter God?

Recall 2 Corinthians 3:18.

PRAY

DAY 04

PRAY / Exodus 34:1-35

(01) In Psalm 25 David is meditating on and praying through Exodus 34:6-7. Read through Psalm 25 and allow David to teach you how to pray the Bible.

(02) Be intentional throughout your week to seek the counsel and presence of God. Set a timer and sit in His presence in prayer, reflecting on the characteristics found in Exodus 34:6-7.



APPLY

DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind or actions?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

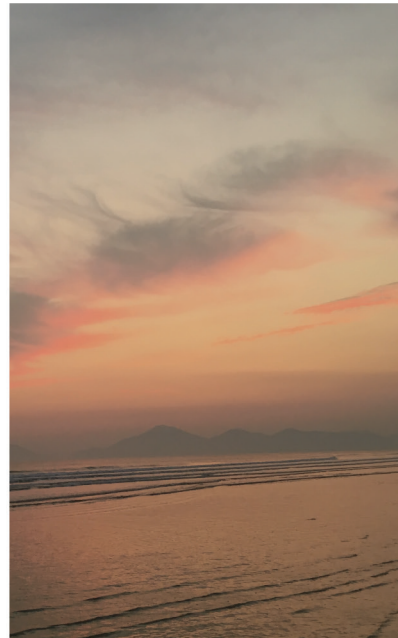
(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

Moses responded to the revelation of God's name by "quickly bowing his head toward the earth and worshiping" (Exodus 34:8). How have you responded?

EXODUS 34:6

THE LORD,
A GOD
MERCIFUL AND
GRACIOUS,
SLOW TO
ANGER, AND
ABOUNDING
IN STEADFAST
LOVE AND
FAITHFULNESS.

WEEK (10) of 10
Redeemed for Relationship



OUR LORD IS
FINISHING
WHAT HE STARTED

10

OBSERVE

DAY 01

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 35:1-40:38

Use the following prompts for guidance and try to make at least ten observations from the text:

(01) Who is this passage about? What does it reveal about each character's view of God? What does it reveal about God?

Consider the fact that Israel just worshiped a golden calf. What does it say about God that He would still want to dwell among these people?

(02) What is this passage about? Which key words, phrases, or themes do you see repeated?

Some variation of the phrase "as the Lord commanded Moses" is repeated twenty-six times throughout this passage. Why is precise obedience so important in the context of building the tabernacle?

(03) How does this passage fit with and contribute to the narrative that comes before it (specifically Exodus 25-34)? In which ways does the context help you understand the passage?

(04) Why is 25% of the book of Exodus devoted to details about the tabernacle (chapters 25-31, 35-40)? Why does Moses, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, think the tabernacle is so significant?

INTERPRET

DAY 02

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 39:32-40:38

ZOOM IN / Why does Moses record the creation of the tabernacle in a way that echoes/recalls God's creation of the world? How are these two events related, and how are they different?

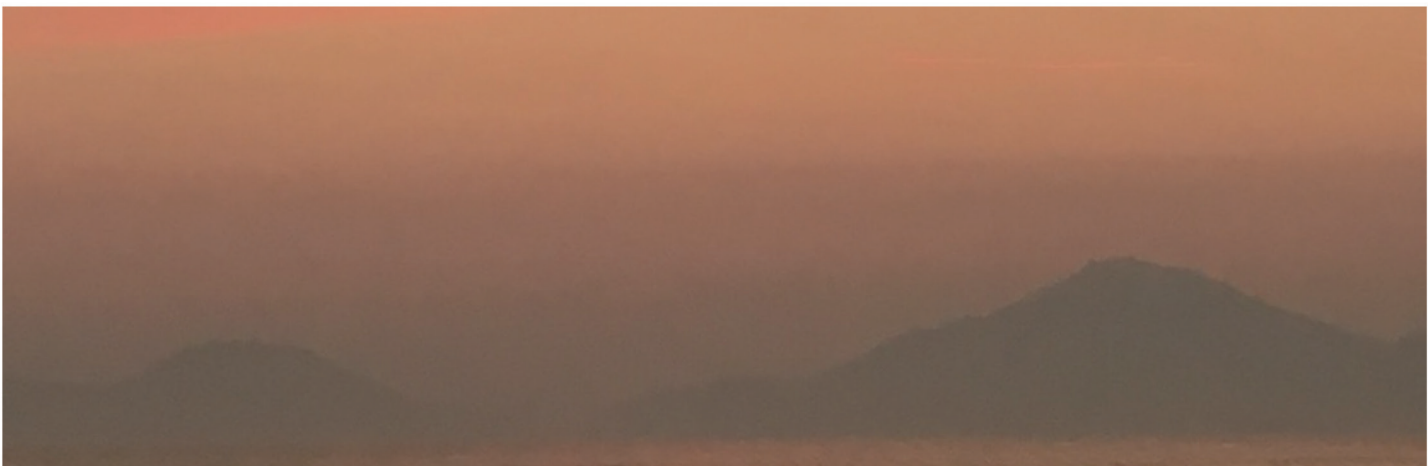
Compare Ex. 39:43 with Gen. 1:31 / Ex. 39:32 with Gen. 2:1-2 / Ex. 39:43 with Gen. 1:28 / Gen. 3:23-24 with Ex. 40:34-38.

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 40:35 / Lev. 9:18-24 / Heb. 10:19-25. At the end of Exodus, Moses is not able to enter God's presence, but in Leviticus 9 he is. Why does the shedding of blood enable God's sinful people to draw near to His holy presence?

ZOOM OUT / Read Ex. 40:34 / 1 Kgs. 8:10-11 / Hag. 2:7-9 / Rev. 21:22-22:5. According to these passages, how do the tabernacle and temple foreshadow what the entire New Creation will be like? In light of this reality, how does the tabernacle help us understand God's goal for redemption?

ZOOM OUT / Read Jn. 1:14 / 2:18-22 / Eph 2:18-21 / 1 Cor. 6:19-20. In which ways do the tabernacle and the temple point to Jesus? In which ways do they point to the Church?

See Eph. 2:21-22 / 1 Cor. 6:19-20.



REFLECT

DAY 03

PRAY / Psalm 119:18

READ / Exodus 35:1-40:38

(01) What offerings might you have to contribute to God for worship? Some brought their belongings, while others offered skills and time. What do you have to give? Are you generous, joyful, and obedient to God's instructions for your life? Is your heart moved to bring offerings for the work of the Lord?

(02) Reflect on Exodus 40:34-35. Write down some emotions that stir in your heart upon reading this verse, specifically in consideration of 1 Corinthians 6:19.

(03) As we finish this week in Exodus, reflect on what you have learned from the story of Moses and the Israelites from Exodus 1-40. How does your story of redemption reflect their calling, redemption, and journey toward relationship with God? How has it made you long for the New Creation?

PRAY

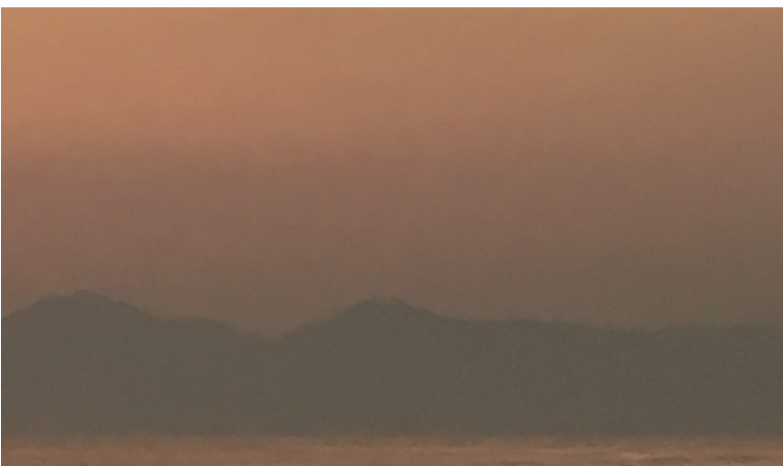
DAY 04

PRAY / Exodus 35:1-40:38

(01) Confess to God any areas you have withheld your generosity or offerings from the work He is doing in and among you. Tell God why you might be holding back, and ask for His help to submit those things to Him.

(02) Marvel at the lengths God has gone to to dwell among us. Take some time to journal your response to His love. Thank God for making a way to dwell with Him.

(03) Enjoy God in prayer today! Relish the relationship and praise Him for your redemption! Sing a song of praise, or read a Psalm aloud. Join in with the people of Exodus in worshiping the Lord our God!



APPLY

DAY 05

PRAY / 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(01) What has this week's text taught you about God? What has it taught you about yourself?

How has this study of the tabernacle helped you better understand the gospel and God's goal for redemption?

(02) How has it revealed areas of ungodliness in your heart, mind, or actions?

(03) Which areas of your life or thinking need corrected?

(04) How can you be a doer of what you have learned and not just a hearer?

EXODUS 40:34

THE GLORY
OF THE LORD
FILLED THE
TABERNACLE.

APPENDIX A

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR BIBLE STUDY

The goal of this study is to guide you and aid you in your study of God's Word. We don't merely want to know more about Exodus 16-40. We want to become life-long studiers, lovers, and obeyers of the Word of God. Our prayer is that you will be able to take tools and habits that you gain from this study and apply them every time you open your Bible.

With that goal in mind, here are some tips for Bible study that are applicable whether you are being guided by a study workbook or not.

(01) GET ONE PHYSICAL COPY OF THE BIBLE THAT IS *YOUR* BIBLE

It is a blessing to have multiple copies in multiple translations on multiple digital devices. But don't allow that blessing to hinder you from having a Bible that is *your* Bible.

(02) BE MINDFUL OF WHICH TRANSLATION YOU ARE READING

There are lots of great translations that range from dynamic to more literal. But there are also some really bad translations. If your Bible is not ESV, CSB, or NIV, ask a pastor or elder for advice.

(03) MARK YOUR BIBLE UP

Always read your Bible with a pen in hand. Underline, circle, star and highlight. This will help *your* Bible become your Bible. It will also help you remember and reference what you have read.

(04) GET A BIBLE READING PLAN

The more structure and accountability you have, the more consistent you will be. So find a plan that works for you and stick to it!

(05) READ LARGE PORTIONS OF THE BIBLE IN ONE SITTING

It is great to study the book of Romans verse by verse. But it is also great to sit down and read all sixteen chapters in one sitting!

(06) MEDITATE ON SMALL PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE

Don't be like the person who looks in the mirror and then walks away and forgets what he looks like! If you want to be a doer and not just a hearer, you will need to slow down and meditate every time you open your Bible.

(07) LEARN FROM TEACHERS, BUT DON'T LEAN ON THEM TOO MUCH

Having a study Bible (i.e., ESV Study Bible) or a devotional commentary (i.e., Matthew Henry) can be a great resource to aid in Bible reading. But make sure to guard your time in the Bible from becoming a time where you read more of man's words than God's!

(08) PRAY BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER YOU READ

We pray before because we acknowledge our dependence on the Lord to have eyes to see. We pray while we read because God speaks when we read His Word, and prayer is our way to respond. And we pray after for grace to obey and not just know.

