



EXODUS

THE NOBODY • THE NAME • AND THE NATION

EXODUS

Term 1	Passage		Preaching Date
Week 1	Exodus 1-2	God hears our cries	28 July
Week 2	Exodus 3-4	God reveals His name	4 August
Week 3	Exodus 5-10	God defeats His Rivals	11 August
Week 4	Exodus 11-13	God rescues His People	18 August
Week 5	Exodus 14-18	God deserves our Praise	25 August
Week 6	Exodus 19-20	God calls us to new Life	1 September
Week 7	Exodus 20	God Covenants with His People	8 September
Week 8	Exodus 21-24	God Rules with Wisdom	15 September
Week 9	Exodus 32-34	God Hates Idolatry	22 September
Week 10	Exodus 25-40	God Dwells among us	29 September

The Bible in a Year

Week	Passage 1	Passage 2	Passage 3
1	Exodus 1-2	Leviticus 1 & 2	Ecclesiastes 1
2	Exodus 3-4	Leviticus 3	Ecclesiastes 2
3	Exodus 5-10	Leviticus 4	Ecclesiastes 3
4	Exodus 11-13	Leviticus 5	Ecclesiastes 4 & 5
5	Exodus 14-18	Leviticus 6	Ecclesiastes 6
6	Exodus 19-20	Leviticus 7	Ecclesiastes 7
7	Exodus 20	Leviticus 8	Ecclesiastes 8
8	Exodus 21-24	Leviticus 9	Ecclesiastes 9
9	Exodus 32-34	Leviticus 10	Ecclesiastes 10 & 11
10	Exodus 25-40	Leviticus 11	Ecclesiastes 12

TERM 3 2024

Introduction to Exodus

Dating the Exodus is tricky for a number of historical reasons. A powerful nation at that time like Egypt, would be reluctant to publicise so stunning a set back at the hands of a group of slaves but we know from the Merneptah Stele that Israel were firmly settled within the land of Canaan by 1220 B.C. The most likely date of the Exodus given all considerations is in the mid 1400's B.C.

The themes of this book concern the character and uniqueness of God. He is the God who speaks, who makes Himself known to His people by His name Yahweh. He is the God who is free to be who He is. The God who controls history by miraculously fulfilling His promises. The God who is holy and who acts to save and to judge. He is the God who is transcendent and yet dwells among His people. He acts through His mediator Moses, the man who foreshadows Jesus. It will be a great blessing to us to learn more of Him this term. As an aid to your reading, you will find an excellent podcast on the 9marks website if you google- 9 marks Bible Talk Exodus episode 21, 22 etc

What is the goal of these notes?

The goal is to grow your ability to read the bible. Bible reading is essential to Christian growth and survival but it's a skill that only develops with practice. Indeed because of the spiritual apathy that's part of our fallen nature the desire to read only grows with practice! The bible is an extraordinary book. It has changed people, nations and the flow of history. That's unsurprising since it's God's book and contains God's wisdom for life. Yet, bible reading in some ways is no different to reading any other book. These notes will assist you in developing skills which will increasingly enable you to feed yourself from the bible and help others do the same.

EXODUS

Three ways to use these notes

1. Personal reading

- Use this guide to help you read your Bible every day.
- Scribble down your thoughts and questions each day, and remember to pray asking God to speak to you by His Spirit, through His word.

2. Growth Groups

- Use the section at the end of each week to prepare for your Growth Group.
- Take this guide with you to your Growth Group each week so you can write down prayer points that come from the study that week and prayer requests from the members of your group.
- Let your group know who you are on mission to.

3. Church

- Keep this guide with your Bible and bring it with you to church.
- Scribble down sermon notes in the space provided.

3-1-1 Prayer

We all care for friends and family who don't know Jesus and this should be reflected in our prayers. List below the names of 3 such people you can be praying for once a week for one minute.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

GOD HEARS OUR CRIES

A literal translation of Exodus shows that it begins with the word “and”. In other words it is a continuation of Genesis showing the fulfilment of God’s covenant promises. In Genesis 47, Joseph’s family enjoyed the gratitude and patronage of Pharaoh but times had changed. The word “Israelite” occurs only twice in Genesis but in Exodus, 125 times. Exodus is a new beginning for a new nation who’ll need rescuing by the same faithful God.

Week 1: Day 1

READ EXODUS 1:1-14

1. What can you find out about the circumstances of God’s people in Egypt?
2. If we were among the Israelites, oppressed in Egypt, we might be confused about God’s treatment of us as His people. Are these circumstances a picture of His blessing or His disfavour? (consider Genesis 1: 28,29, 12:1-3; 15:13-16)
3. Throughout Israel’s history, Satan sought to prevent the saving work of the Christ on many different occasions. This is one. Can you think of others?

PRAY: God is always committed to the preservation of His people, won by His Son. Ask Him to make you patient and wise in bearing affliction because you trust His promise of blessing.

WEEK 1: EXODUS 1-2

Day 2

READ EXODUS 1:15-22

1. With the failure of plan A (forced labour), Pharaoh resorted to plan B. How would you describe this plan?

2. How are God's covenant promises evident in v's 20 & 21?

3. Pharaoh remains unnamed in this passage but not so Shiprah and Puah (v 15). What encouragement should we find in the account of these Hebrew midwives?

*"Days of darkness still come o'er me, Sorrow's paths I often tread,
But the Savior still is with me; By His hand I'm safely led..."*

F.H. Rawley

PRAY: God can use anyone to accomplish His purposes and raises up faithful people to serve. Ask Him for the courage and trust to be useful to Him.

GOD HEARS OUR CRIES

Day 3

READ EXODUS 2:1-10

Today we meet Moses and his family: his father Amram and mother Jochebed (Exodus 6:2), his sister Miriam (Exodus 15:20). His brother Aaron is not introduced until Exodus 4:14. However in the narrative to this point it is the women who are the heroes.

1. Consider this account carefully. Miriam took great risks in this scene. What might you infer about her character and that of Pharaoh's daughter from what they do?

2. As a result of what happens in this chapter, Moses will grow up in Pharaoh's royal household and later represent Israel before him. How might this experience have helped in his later ministry?

3. How is God's providence at work in these events?

"Not only does God supply all things, He arranges them according to His plan for His glory. There is not one piece of cosmic dust outside the scope of God's sovereign providence."

R.C. Sproul

PRAY: God's providential care is His wonderful gift to His collective church and to every individual child of God. Praise Him for His powerful goodness.

WEEK 1: EXODUS 1-2

Day 4

READ EXODUS 2:11-25

It's always important to read the New Testament as a commentary on the Old. As verse 11 begins, 40 years have gone by. (Acts 7:23). Moses has an awareness that he is an Israelite with a significant role to play so will sacrifice the ease of palace life to suffer with the people of God. (Hebrews 11:24-26)

1. What can you infer about Moses' character from what you read here? (see Also Acts 7:25)

2. Moses' human efforts to save his people are a failure, which humanly speaking, delay God's rescue. How is this evident from what happens?

In v's 23-25, human actions give way to God's intervention. In describing God the bible uses "anthropomorphism" i.e. human characteristics attributed to God. When it says that God "was concerned" it can make it sound like He wanted to do something but was unable. Don't press such statements literally.

3. What examples of "anthropomorphism" do you see in v's 24 & 25? What truth about His character can we take from this?

PRAY: God is attentive to His people and His covenant love for them never fails. What a basis for confidence this gives us. Praise God that He hears and acts for our good.

GOD HEARS OUR CRIES

Day 5

READ EXODUS 1-2

One way to understand the big covenant picture of God's plans in the bible is to remember this pattern: It is about God's people, in God's place, under God's rule.

1. The covenant is a key to understanding God's actions in the world. Where is God's covenant referred to either directly or indirectly in these chapters.

2. As one of God's people, what truth about Him did you find most comforting this week?

3. Like the people of Israel, we are God's people, striving to live under His rule but like Israel we aren't in God's place. How do the events of these chapters encourage you to persevere in serving God today?

"God knows we have nothing of ourselves, therefore in the covenant of grace he requires no more than he gives, but gives what he requires, and accepts what he gives."

Richard Sibbes

PRAY: Jesus shows us more clearly than ever before what God is like. Praise God for the gift of His Son who puts a human face on God so we can know Him.

WEEK 1: EXODUS 1-2

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. What can you find out about the circumstances of God's people in Egypt? (Day 1 Q1)

2. Pharaoh remains unnamed in this passage but not so Shiphrah and Puah (v 15). What encouragement should we find in the account of these Hebrew midwives? (Day 2 Q3)

3. Like the people of Israel, we are God's people, striving to live under His rule but like Israel we aren't in God's place. How do the events of these chapters encourage you to persevere in serving God today? (Day 5 Q 3)

WEEK 1: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

WEEK 2: EXODUS 3-4

This week brings us to a life changing meeting. Acts 7:30 tells us that 40 years have passed from the time Moses fled from Egypt. He is now 80 years of age and like Jacob in the house of Laban and Joseph in Genesis 37, he is tending flocks in Midian far from the bright lights of the palace but like his ancestors, God has plans for him

Week 2: Day 1

READ EXODUS 3:1-14.

Moses' father-in-law was first introduced as Reuel in 2:1 and as Jethro in 3:1, meaning 'excellence', Double names are not uncommon in Arabic sources. But the focus in this passage is on God's name, His character and His intentions.

1. What would Moses have learned about God from this first, dramatic meeting?

In the OT, the "angel of the Lord" is frequently a divine figure who is able to relate to sinful people without consuming them. (33:2,5) For this reason he is thought to be a pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus..

2. Moses' attention is drawn by the burning bush which is not consumed. What do you think is communicated by this image? (see Hebrews 12:29)

3. Imagine you were Moses. This meeting would have been awe inspiring but in what ways would it have been daunting and in what ways comforting?

PRAY: The essence of Christian life is knowing God in Christ. Pray that God will help you to know Him better as we read Exodus this term.

GOD REVEALS HIS NAME

Day 2

READ EXODUS 3:11-4:17

Moses' failure as a rescuer back in Egypt has left him with a lack of confidence. Perhaps you can sympathise. In the passage which follows we see God's gracious response.

1. Make a list of all the excuses Moses makes in this passage.
2. God might have been justly angry at Moses' lack of faith (and in Exodus 4:14 He was!) But what does He finally do in response? What does this reveal about Him?
3. In what areas of Christian life do you feel most inadequate? How does this passage encourage you?

"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."

2 Corinthians 4:7

PRAY: By His own wise and gentle power, God is able to transform the weakest to make them useful in His kingdom. Pray that this will be true of you.

WEEK 2: EXODUS 3-4

Day 3

READ EXODUS 3:11-15

Yesterday we saw something of Moses' chronic sense of inadequacy and insecurity. When we meet such people we might seek to persuade them that they really are sufficient. God doesn't. In the face of his weakness, Moses meets a God who is infinitely able! The name Yahweh appears in your bible as the capitalised word, the "LORD".

1. The goal of God's rescue is always the same. What is it in this passage? What does it mean to you?

2. Names had special significance in the bible and it is possible that the covenant name of God was a closely guarded secret. Consider the name of God in v 14. What does it imply about Him?

3. Consider what the following verses suggest about this name. (Exodus 33:19; Romans 9:14-18)

PRAY: The name "I am who I am" conceals as much as it reveals since God Himself is limitless. Praise God for His infinite goodness and inexhaustible riches.

GOD REVEALS HIS NAME

Day 4

READ EXODUS 4:18-31

After many excuses, Moses finally resolves to give in, trust God and leave Jethro, who was losing a daughter. In contrast to Laban in Genesis 31:43, Jethro was very gracious.

1.. What would Moses have learned about the life ahead in these few verses?

2. The episode in v's 24-26 is a strange one but what point is being made about God and His covenant? (see Genesis 17:10-14)

3. How do you think this episode might find its fulfilment in Jesus?

PRAY: God could handle a man with a speech impediment but not a man with an obedience impediment. Pray that God will keep you faithful to His covenant.

WEEK 2: EXODUS 3-4

Day 5

READ EXODUS 3-4

Not everything said about the heroes of the bible will be true of us. For the most part Abraham, Moses, David and Paul were men with unique roles so we're not wise to identify with them too closely. But all are flawed people of flesh and blood so to that extent we can!

1. In what ways can you identify with Moses in these chapters?
2. In what ways are you encouraged by the picture of God in these chapters?
3. In what ways are you challenged by the God you meet in these chapters?

PRAY: Knowing God is the great adventure and Moses had just embarked on it as have we!. Praise God for His gentleness in leading you to this point.

GOD REVEALS HIS NAME

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. What would Moses have learned about God from this first, dramatic meeting? (Day 1 Q1)

2. Make a list of all the excuses Moses makes in 3:11-4:17 (Day 2 Q1)

3. In what ways are you challenged or encouraged by the God you meet in these chapters? (Day 5 Q2,3)

WEEK 2: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

GOD DEFEATS HIS RIVALS

While these chapters may seem familiar, what we may not have realised is the contest that they describe. God's plagues (or signs and wonders 7:13) will attack the heart of Egypt's worship and demonstrate His supremacy and glory above all rivals (12:12). In this contest we see the promise to Abraham being fulfilled in blessing for the nations!

Week 3: Day 1

READ EXODUS 4:27-5:23

Moses' first failure (2:15) resulted from his anger and impulsive action. His second will come from failing to heed God's word.

1. Moses doesn't actually do what God had commanded him. Compare 3:18 with 5:1-3 and note his departure from the plan.

2. How would you describe Egypt's and especially Pharaoh's response to Moses' demand IN 5:1-21?

It's been said that Exodus 5:2 is the most important verse in the next 10 chapters. God's intention (Exodus 9:15,16) was that Pharaoh would "know" His name and that it would be declared throughout the earth.

3. Some think God's goal above is selfish and egotistical. Why is it loving and absolutely essential? .

*"The deepest longing of the human heart is to know and enjoy the glory of God.
We were made for this."*

John Piper

PRAY: Although Piper is right, few of us consider this truth until we begin to experience it and see its prominence in scripture. Pray that this will be the end result for you this term.

WEEK 3: EXODUS 5-10

Day 2

READ EXODUS 5:22-7:7

Pharaoh's dismissive attitude to Yahweh (5:2) means that Moses returns to God in despair, defeat and complaint, "You have not rescued your people at all." But chapter 6 begins with Yahweh's decisive word of promise (6:1).

1. In v's 2-6, God was soon to reveal Himself in a new way and by a new name Yahweh.. In v's 6-8 list the things He WILL do, noting what they imply about Him.

While the name Yahweh appeared 160 times in Genesis, Moses' ancestors knew Him, only as the one who made the covenant. Israel will know Him as the one who fulfils it by redeeming them. Consider how often the name, LORD appears in v's 6:2-8)

2. Moses was a mere man, a Levite, the priestly tribe, hence the genealogy in 6:14-25. In 5:22,23 & 6:9-12, how do Moses and his people show their frailty?

3. Can you think of occasions where you have acted towards God like this? What can we learn from God's response? (see 6:1-8 & 6:28-7:5)

PRAY: Do you tend to complain before God too frequently? Confess that now and remember His promise of adequacy.

GOD DEFEATS HIS RIVALS

Day 3

READ EXODUS 7:8-8:19

After two failures, Moses came to a turning point in Exodus 7:6. "Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord commanded them." The reference to their ages reminds us of the time God can take to prepare someone to serve Him obediently.

1. Moses had performed the sign with his staff before (4:1-5 & 29-31). Are miracles always a sign that God is at work? Explain your reasoning. (Revelation 13:13,14)

The 10 plagues were judgements on the "gods" of Egypt (Exodus 12:12; Numbers 33:4) and come in triplets with a final culminating judgement. Apsis, Hapi, Osiris and Khnum were all gods of the Nile. Heqet was the frog-headed goddess of birth. Geb was the god over the dust of the Earth.

2. Consider the timing of the first set of 3 plagues (7:14-8:19) and any warning preceding them. What differences exist between them? (see also 8:20 & 9:13)

3. This section ends with Pharaoh's heart hard. But God restrains, changes & softens hard hearts. (Acts 16:14) In what ways are you aware that He has done this in you?

PRAY: Consider our overseas mission partners G and A and M in the Middle East. Pray for them in their work. Ask that God will give them fruit in their testimony to Him.

WEEK 3: EXODUS 5-10

Day 4

READ EXODUS 8:20-9:12

This is the second set of three judgments. Khepri, with the head of a fly, was the Egyptian god of rebirth; Hathor with the head of a cow, was the god of love and protection; and Isis, the goddess of healing who was attacked in the plague of boils.

1. Compare the first, second and third plagues in this set with those in the first set on day 3. What pattern do you see?

2. The plague of boils is the first to directly afflict the people of Egypt. How might an Egyptian who wanted to repent actually do so ?

3. Christians are often troubled by what the bible says about God's sovereign power. In each of these three plagues, what is said about Pharaoh's heart? What could you conclude?

PRAY: The default position of our hearts is hardness because of sin. Pharaoh, faced with good reasons to repent, was unable to do so. Praise God for His goodness in opening people to Himself. Pray that He would do this in the lives of your family and 3:1:1 friends.

GOD DEFEATS HIS RIVALS

Day 5

READ EXODUS 9:13-10:29

This is the third set of judgements: Hail, locusts and darkness. Nut was the Egyptian goddess of the sky from which hail came; Seth, the god of storms and disorder and Ra, the sun god.

1. According to 9:13-18, what will be distinctive about this third set of plagues?

Note that if God's goal was simply to rescue His people from slavery, He would not have hardened Pharaoh's heart. Exodus 9:15,16 gives the deeper reason.

2. Aaron's staff was mentioned in the first set but not in the second. What replaces this in the third?

3. At the beginning of his ministry Moses was a very ordinary man. In what ways does God change Him and to what do you attribute this?

"We weren't meant to be somebody--we were meant to know Somebody"

John Piper

PRAY: All of us, like Moses, are by nature very weak in faith. Ask God to strengthen you by showing you more of Himself.

WEEK 3: EXODUS 5-10

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. How would you describe Egypt's and especially Pharaoh's response to Moses' demand IN 5:1-21? (Day 1 Q2)

2. Exodus 5:2 is central to these chapters. God will show Pharaoh who He is. Some think this is selfish and egotistical. Why is it loving and absolutely essential? (Day 1 Q3)

3. At the beginning of his ministry Moses was a very ordinary man. In what ways does God change Him and to what do you attribute this? (Day 5 Q3)

WEEK 3: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

WEEK 4: EXODUS 11-13

The plagues revealed the supremacy of Yahweh over the gods of Egypt. Here they are Osiris, god of the dead; his assistant Anubis, god of the underworld and Pharaoh himself. While the previous plagues were mediated by Aaron or Moses, now God acts alone. The goal is in Exodus 12:12.

Week 4: Day 1

READ EXODUS 11

1. How is the absolute supremacy of Yahweh revealed in this passage?
2. God's salvation always comes through judgement. Describe the judgement that was to fall on Egypt.

Secular morality begins with the centrality of mankind so we can scarcely imagine any acceptable justification for human suffering. But there is such a thing as collective guilt. It was true of Nazi Germany and also a nation like Egypt who'd held Israel captive for 400 years.

3. "How could a good God bring such a tragedy on an innocent nation?" How would you answer this objection in such a way as to help the enquirer understand the gospel?

PRAY: God is always good, even when we find His justice hard to face. Ask God to grow you in the wisdom to answer the hard questions of an unbelieving world.

GOD RESCUES HIS PEOPLE

Day 2

READ EXODUS 12:1-20

This was to be for Israel their “first month” (12:1) as a nation redeemed out of slavery. This passover meal was to serve as a memory aid to God's foundational Old Testament rescue so when Jesus came they'd have the language and categories with which to understand it.

1. Summarise God's commands to the people in v's 1-13.
2. What attitude would it have required for each Israelite family to carry this out? (see Hebrews 11:28)
3. Israel was called to eat the Passover fully dressed and ready for action (12:11). In Luke 12:36 Jesus uses the same language with His disciples. How might this element apply to us today?

PRAY: During times of hardship, pain and even joy, we need to remember the gospel and preach it to yourself. Ask God's help so you won't forget.

WEEK 4: EXODUS 11-13

Day 3

READ EXODUS 12:21-30

1. Imagine you lived in ancient Israel. What elements of the Passover observance would be most memorable for you?

2. The Passover sacrifice is fulfilled in Jesus. How has God ordained the scriptures to remind us of this connection? (see John 19:29; Psalm 51:7)

In the bread making process, yeast causes the dough to rise but due to the haste with which the Israelites needed to leave Egypt, they were instructed to make bread without yeast. In the law, yeast symbolised sin and corruption (Leviticus 2:11 & 6:17)

3. Consider v's 25 & 26. What is one similar question a child might ask their parents today? What might be a helpful answer?

PRAY: Paul reminds us (1 Corinthians 5:7) that Jesus is our Passover so like Israel, we're to live new lives with the Spirit's help. Ask God for this in your own life..

GOD RESCUES HIS PEOPLE

Day 4

READ EXODUS 12:31-50

1. How would you describe the transformation which God caused in the hearts of both Pharaoh and his people?

2. Verses 43-51 stress the solidarity of all who belong to God's rescued people. How is this apparent in the instructions given?

3. How do you think this solidarity should apply to Christians like us today?

PRAY: The Passover sacrifice of Jesus makes believers into family. Pray that you will reflect this in your relationships with other Christians. Ask God to reveal to you if there are any that need healing.

WEEK 4: EXODUS 11-13

Day 5

READ EXODUS 13:1-22

The scriptures emphasise the need for believers to “remember” since we so easily forget. This was built into the community life of ancient Israel and is no less important for us today.

1. God gave two memory aids to be passed on by this first generation of His redeemed people. List them below, explaining the significance of each.

2. What various means does God give to New Testament believers to help them “remember”?

3. How was God’s gentle provision shown to the Israelites as they departed from slavery? (v’s 17-22) How does He show similar kindness to those in Christ?

PRAY: Our sinful hearts easily forget God’s kindness. (Deuteronomy 4:9) Ask God to help you be diligent in the means of grace so you won’t forget.

GOD RESCUES HIS PEOPLE

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. Summarise God's commands to the people in v's 1-13. (Day 2 Q1)
2. Imagine you lived in ancient Israel. What elements of the Passover observance would be most memorable for you? (Day 3 Q1)
3. "How could a good God bring such a tragedy on an innocent nation?" How would you answer this objection in such a way as to help the enquirer understand the gospel? (Day 1 Q3)

WEEK 4: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

GOD DESERVES OUR PRAISE

Exodus 1-13 is the record of how God came to His people in their distress. Exodus 14-18 records how He led them to a land of their own: a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Yahweh was with them, leading, guiding, caring and bearing with them in their sin. It is the same Lord, we know in Jesus

Week 5: Day 1

READ EXODUS 14

1. What was taking place in this episode:
 - a. From the point of view of the Egyptians?
 - b. From the point of view of the Israelites?
 - c. From the point of view of God?
2. God led Israel into a vulnerable position in order to strengthen their faith. How should this shape our perception of the difficulties in our own lives?
3. This will not be the first time we see Israel's incessant complaining. How would you diagnose their problem and its solution?

PRAY: No doubt you've experienced hard times in life when you wondered what on earth God was doing. Pray that you learn from Israel's error.

WEEK 5: EXODUS 14-18

Day 2

READ EXODUS 15

1. What attributes of God are recounted in the "Song of Moses"?
2. Which of the above gives you the greatest comfort? Which do you find the most challenging?
3. A great show of praise and worship is followed by another episode of complaining. This is not uncommon. How might this observation help you?

"God might have given them sweet water to drink at first, but he wished by means of the bitter to make prominent the bitterness which lurked in their hearts."

John Calvin

PRAY: Examine your own heart. Are there things that often cause you to complain? Is complaining a habit for you? Ask God to heal you through the knowledge of Himself.

GOD DESERVES OUR PRAISE

Day 3

READ EXODUS 16

1. Scanning chapters 15-17 reveals God's provision for His people. What was it designed to teach them about Himself?

Grumbling is revealing! It exposes our hearts and the nature of our faith. It is infectious since it can poison the hearts of others. It is deceptive since it can lead us to see our old lives through rose coloured glasses. And it is insulting since it dishonours God. In this Moses' leadership was wise. He exposed the nature of their sin. (16:7,8 & 17:2)

2. The Old Testament is full of 'types' and 'shadows' which are fulfilled in Jesus. In John 6:32-35, how does Jesus fulfil the feeding in the wilderness?

3. When you recognise a desperate need in your life, what options is God setting before you?

PRAY: One commentator Philip Ryken says: *"The meaning of the manna is that all we need is Jesus."* If this seems too glib, ask God to show you the truth of this..

WEEK 5: EXODUS 14-18

Day 4

READ EXODUS 17

This scene is similar to another one in Numbers 20 but this occurs near the beginning of their journey while Numbers occurs toward the end. One application is that maturity always takes time because we quickly forget lessons once learned.

1. Grumbling against God is often hidden behind grumbling against the leaders he has given. How is this unhelpful to those leaders?

Just as Jesus is the true fulfilment or antitype of the manna, so He is the true fulfilment of the water in the wilderness. (1 Corinthians 10:4) A second type in this passage is the nature of Israel's enemies. Amalek was a grandson of Jacob's worldly brother Esau (Genesis 36:12)

2. Our enemies are not people. What do you learn about them in Ephesians 6:12, 1 John 2:15,16)

3. What can we learn from Moses in v's 8-16 about fighting our true enemies? See also Ephesians 6:13-20.

PRAY: Nothing for the Christian is more exhausting than the fight against sin. It is unrelenting until the day we die. Ask God for perseverance and humility in the fight.

GOD DESERVES OUR PRAISE

Day 5

READ EXODUS 18

Chronologically this chapter belongs AFTER Exodus 19 (compare Exodus 18:5 with 19:1-2). However, thematically it belongs where it is because it reminds us of the wider world, loved by God which He has promised to bless. (Genesis 12:1-3)

1. Jethro, also named Ruel, was a priest of Midian. What evidence is there that he finishes this chapter as a believer?
2. Moses could have rejected his father in law's advice but was wise to listen. How did Jethro bless the Israelite community?
3. What principles can you infer from this episode for us today?
4. Run your eyes back over the events of this week. What has God taught His people?

PRAY: We are all called to serve. It's not the church or the senior minister we serve but God Himself. What is one responsibility you've taken on recently in which you would be best to seek the help of others. Ask for God's wisdom in this.

WEEK 5: EXODUS 14-18

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. In Exodus 14, what was taking place from the point of view of the Egyptians, the Israelites and from God? (Day 1 Q1)

2. Scanning chapters 15-17 reveals God's provision for His people. What was it designed to teach them about Himself? (Day 3 Q1)

3. When you recognise a desperate need in your life, what options is God setting before you? (Day 3 Q3)

WEEK 5: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

WEEK 6: EXODUS 19-20

Exodus 19 is a turning point in the book. God's purpose for rescuing Israel was worship (Exodus 3:12). It is the purpose of all life and the reason we exist. In coming at last to Sinai, God "covenants" with His people that they might know and enjoy Him in worship. There was already a covenant in existence- the covenant of grace with Abraham. But this Sinai covenant needs to be understood since it would shape Israel's life until Jesus came.

Week 6: Day 1

READ EXODUS 19

1. This passage could be divided into 3 parts: calling (invitation to God's people to come to Him; consecration (Prepare themselves to meet Him); condescension (God comes near). List the verses that deal with each & summarise what you learn about them.

a. Calling

b. Consecration

c. Condescension

2. If you were present at Mount Sinai that day, what is the one thing that would most strike you about God?

PRAY: To what extent does the holiness of God shape the way you relate to Him? To what extent does it impact the way you think about Jesus' death for you. Pray that this week might help you.

GOD CALLS US TO NEW LIFE

Day 2

READ EXODUS 19:1-9

Three times in this chapter (v's 3,8,20), Moses ascends the mountain to meet with God. He foreshadows Jesus as our mediator (1 Tim 2:5), the go-between who brokers a new covenant with God. But what sort of covenant is this?

1. Israel was already saved by grace, when God rescued them from Egypt. Try to summarise the various steps that follow in v's 4-8?

a. Verse 4

b. Verses 5 & 6

c. Verses 7 & 8

2. The covenant with Abraham was a largely one-sided covenant in which God alone made promises. Is this covenant one sided?

3. God gave Israel the law of Sinai to show them what it meant to live for Him. What happened to this Sinai covenant when Jesus came? (Romans 10:4; Galatians 3:13,14)

PRAY: God's law reveals His character and what it means to live as His people. But thank God that we're saved by grace because we could never be saved by His law.

WEEK 6: EXODUS 19-20

Day 3

READ EXODUS 19:10-25 & HEBREWS 12:18-29

1. If you were among the Israelites at Mount Sinai that day, what would you have seen, heard and experienced?

2. According to Hebrews 12, how was Israel's experience meant to impact them (see also Exodus 20:20) and how is our greater experience meant to impact us?

3. While God came near at Mount Sinai but He dwelt among us in Jesus. What do you learn of Him in Jesus that you may not have learned at Mount Sinai? (John 1:17)

"Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th'incarnate Deity..."

Charles Wesley

PRAY: The whole bible reveals the grace of God but it is embodied in Jesus. Are there people you know who don't understand this grace? Pray for them now.

GOD CALLS US TO NEW LIFE

Day 4

READ EXODUS 20

This is one of the most famous chapters in the bible containing one of the most famous pieces of literature in history. The Sinai covenant takes the well known form of an ancient suzerain-vassal treaty. A preamble identified the king and the recipients of the treaty, a history that documented their relationship, followed by stipulations and blessings for keeping the covenant.

1. Consider the parts of the treaty mentioned above. Where do you see them in Exodus 20? (see also Exodus 19:1-9)

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2. The decalogue is a title meaning the 'Ten words'. These words fall into "two tables". See if you can find the division and give each a title below.

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PRAY: The ten commandments were revered in the ancient world for their wisdom and beauty. Today they still instruct the ethics of western society. Praise God for His wisdom.

WEEK 6: EXODUS 19-20

Day 5

READ EXODUS 20:1-6 & 22-25

The Ten Commandments begin with God and this was deliberate. Not only is He our first allegiance but He gives impetus to our love of neighbour. One thing is immediately obvious: God hates idolatry.

1. Israel had experienced idolatry in Egypt. Why do you think idolatry was and is so attractive? Google Kevin deYoung "The Attraction of Idolatry".

The second commandment (v 4-6) however is not about false gods but about the worship of the true God in a false way. Although common in some Christian traditions the bible rejects it.

2. Why does God reject idolatry? (see Exodus 20:4,22-25; Deuteronomy 4:15-20) A helpful article to go to is "The God of Word" by John Woodhouse.

3. The second commandment raises a question about art. Are paintings of Jesus wrong and if not when might they become wrong?

"To worship art is wrong, but to make art is not."

Francis Shaeffer

PRAY: Any good thing can become an idol. Wealth is a blessing of God but in the hands of sinful people Jesus warns against its danger. Ask God to search your heart concerning idolatry and lead you to repentance if necessary.

GOD CALLS US TO NEW LIFE

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. This passage could be divided into 3 parts: calling, consecration and condescension (God comes near). List the verses that deal with each summarising what you learn about them. (Day 1 Q1)

2. According to Hebrews 12:18-29, how was Israel's experience meant to impact them (see also Exodus 20:20) and how is our greater experience meant to impact us? (Day 3 Q2)

3. Why do you think idolatry was and is so attractive? You might Google Kevin deYoung "The Attraction of Idolatry". (Day 5 Q1)

WEEK 6: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

GOD COVENANTS WITH HIS PEOPLE

Hammurabi was an 18th century B.C. Babylonian king, famous for his law code. However, the Ten Commandments or “Ten Words” stand apart. The clues in the text (20:1,18,19) suggest that God Himself spoke them audibly from the mountain. They went far beyond the stipulations of Hammurabi, being summed up with the word “love”- love of God. They express the character of Israel’s loving God.

Week 7: Day 1

READ EXODUS 20:1-17

The Ten Commandments are divided into two tables, v’s 2-11 love for God and v’s 12-17 love for neighbour.

1. There’s a symmetry in the tables of the commandments: in the first the order is thoughts, words, deeds and in the second it is deeds, words, thoughts. Try to match up the verses in each table that relate.

2. The third commandment orders us not to associate our God with wickedness or use His name in a trivial manner. What speech activities might this rule out?

3. Is the Old Testament law binding on us today (Ephesians 2:15) or are we called to a higher standard? (Romans 13:8 & Galatians 6:2.)

PRAY: Imagine if all Christians were compelled by the law of love! Pray that this would be increasingly true of those you know.

WEEK 7: EXODUS 20

Day 2

READ EXODUS 20:8-12

The Ten Commandments are timeless in their relevance since they reflect the character of an unchanging God so we should not be surprised that all are repeated in the New testament- except one!

1. The fourth commandment is not repeated as binding in the New Testament. Instead, how is it transformed? (Romans 14:1-5; Colossians 2:16,17)

While the Old Testament set aside one day as holy to God, the New Testament says every day is holy. The goal of the fourth commandment is unhindered fellowship with God. (see also Genesis 2:2 & Psalm 95:8-11, Hebrews 4:9-11)

2. How do you think Jesus fulfilled the fourth commandment for us?

3. While the fourth commandment is not binding on Christians it remains valuable. How do you apply it?

PRAY: Jesus Himself is our Sabbath day rest. Ask God to help you enjoy Him and extend His rest to others. Pray that your 3:1: friends might know this rest.

GOD COVENANTS WITH HIS PEOPLE

Day 3

READ EXODUS 20:12-13 & MATTHEW 5:21-36

As Jesus referred to the law in His Sermon on the Mount he did not abolish it but drew out its implications. As we think about each law it is best to think positively about what it is seeking to encourage rather than what it forbids.

1. Jesus took seriously the command to honour father and mother. (Matthew 15:4) What might it look like positively to honour our parents?

2. The responsibility of honouring our parents doesn't disappear as we grow older but how might it change?

3. The law that forbids murder aims to treasure life. Positively, how might we obey this law?

"it means the world to a parent when you just say "Hello." For some of us, that may be a start."

Kevin deYoung

PRAY: Legalism is the trademark of Pharisees not of Christians. Ask God to help you honour Him in these commands.

WEEK 7: EXODUS 20

Day 4

READ EXODUS 20:14,15 & MATTHEW 5:27-30

1. The command against adultery aims to protect the good of marriage. What are some actions that this might entail positively?

"Temptations, of course, cannot be avoided but because we cannot prevent the birds from flying over our heads, there is no need that we should let them nest in our hair."

Martin Luther

2. Jesus didn't apply the law as a matter of simple legalism but sought to understand the attitude behind it. What things might count as theft?

3. As we see the scope of the law, what impact does it have on you? (see Romans 3:19-20)

PRAY: One function of the law is to make us aware of our sin and drive us to Jesus for forgiveness. Are you feeling guilty? Take it to Him knowing that all who know Him, know His forgiveness.

GOD COVENANTS WITH HIS PEOPLE

Day 5

READ EXODUS 20:16-17

In the parable of the 'Good Samaritan', Jesus defined "neighbour" very broadly. The Samaritan showed overwhelming care to one who considered him an enemy.

1. To give false testimony against others is to lie about them, especially for personal gain. What subtle acts might be involved in giving "false testimony"?

Unlike deeds like murder, adultery & theft and words like those involved in false testimony, covetousness involves our thought life.

3. Moses lists a number of examples of covetousness. Why do you think these were given?

3. Behind covetousness lies a dissatisfaction with God and what He has chosen to give us. What is the cure to covetousness? (See 1 Timothy 6:6)

PRAY: Growing in contentment begins with trusting God and His love for us. Pray that He would deepen this in you.

WEEK 7: EXODUS 20

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. There's a symmetry in the tables of the Ten Commandments: in the first the order is thoughts, words, deeds and in the second it is deeds, words, thoughts. Try to match up the verses in each table that relate. (Day 1 Q1)

2. Jesus took seriously the command to honour father and mother. (Matthew 15:4) What might it look like positively to honour our parents? (Day 3 Q1)

3. Behind covetousness lies a dissatisfaction with God and what He has chosen to give us. What is the cure to covetousness? (Day 5 Q3)

WEEK 7: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

WEEK 8: EXODUS 21-24

When they first arrived at Mount Sinai, Israel made an excited commitment to Yahweh (19:8). After experiencing His terrifying holiness they may have thought twice but in Exodus 24 will solemnly confirm this. The broad principles of the Ten Commandments required specific application to everyday life. That is what follows in what is called “the Book of the Covenant (Exodus 21-23).

Week 8: Day 1

READ EXODUS 21

We rightly baulk at the idea of slavery but what we see here are stipulations for the indentured servant who sells himself in order to pay off his or her debts.

1. Scan through the various laws of chapters 21-23. What are some of the principles?

2. How do the laws governing slavery show mercy toward the person in debt and make slavery less desirable for the master?

GOD RULES WITH WISDOM

3. What principles and values are upheld by the laws in v's 12-36? Are there any that might challenge the attitudes of our culture?

4. "An eye for an eye", sounds unforgiving to modern ears but what do you imagine it intended to guard against in v's 23-25? How does Jesus draw this out in Matthew 5:38,39?

PRAY: Legalism is never God's way but mercy is. Are there situations in which you feel you need revenge? Ask God to give you wisdom about the balance between justice and mercy.

WEEK 8: EXODUS 21-24

Day 2

READ EXODUS 22

The prohibition against stealing was the eighth commandment but since sin is inevitable, God gave the judge guidelines for what to do when theft did occur.

1. You will have noticed the emphasis on “restitution” in v’s 1-15. Why is restitution more honouring to the victim and to the criminal than mere punishment?

2. Laws alone can’t compel godly behaviour. However, what attitudes did these laws seek to create in Israel?

3. How would these laws have regulated sexual activity?

PRAY: Praise God for the wisdom of His law. Praise Him for His generosity to His world in giving us His mind for our good.

GOD RULES WITH WISDOM

Day 3

READ EXODUS 23:1-13

Many bible versions have a heading preceding this passage which speaks of social justice. It's a popular term today but means different things to different people. So we should pause to examine it before we endorse a particular view.

1. Which of the Ten Commandments are these laws amplifying?
2. How does Jesus draw out the principle behind v's 4,5 & 9?

Verses 10-13 are concerned, of course, with commandments four and one. To not let the "names of other gods be heard on your lips" was not a prohibition on simply using the name "Baal" or "Molech" but to using these names in worship.

3. What do you learn about the character of your God from these commandments?

People who do not observe a Sabbath, either in one day or its distributed equivalent, deny themselves or others the sort of life God intended.

Douglas K. Stewart

PRAY: Social justice is very popular on the horizontal level but not so much on the vertical where we consider what we owe to God. Ask God to give you a deep concern for both.

WEEK 8: EXODUS 21-24

Day 4

READ EXODUS 23:14-33

Our worship is a token of our gratitude to God for His good gifts to us. We demonstrate something of His worth to us. Israel celebrated three festivals throughout their year.

1. For what was Israel giving thanks in each and what is the point for us? (see Exodus 12:17; Deuteronomy 26:1,2,10; v 16)

2. Verse 20 constitutes a shift. These are no longer laws given to the judges but a reminder of God's grace. How is it shown in v's 20-33?

The reverence owed to this angel suggests that He is no mere angel but most likely an incarnate manifestation of Jesus (v 21) given to safeguard them just as the gift of the Spirit is today.

3. Those unfamiliar with Old Testament history can be troubled by God's intention to destroy the previous inhabitants of the land. How is this explained by Genesis 15;16; Deuteronomy 18:10-12)

PRAY: True and acceptable worship comes from the heart which requires us to give frequent thought to all that we've received from God. Pray that your worship will honour God for who He is.

GOD RULES WITH WISDOM

Day 5

READ EXODUS 24

Israel was brought to Mount Sinai to enter into the worship of their God Yahweh (Exodus 3:12; 6:6,7). After pleading their allegiance to Him in Exodus 19, then being terrified by His holiness and hearing His law, they now confirm their covenant with Him.

1. This chapter falls into two halves. Outline in point form what takes place in v's 1-11 & 12-18.

2. The highpoint of the first half of Exodus occurs in v's 9-11. How does it look forward to our future?

Moses as the mediator, foreshadows Jesus. He is invited up the mountain to receive God's law in written form. Spoiler alert: by the time he returns, Israel will already have fallen into terrible idolatry.

3. If the greatest gift we can receive from God is to enjoy His presence how might we apply this truth?

PRAY: Consider the astonishing thing that Jesus has accomplished. Sinful people are invited into the intimate presence of God to be His own. Meditate on this & praise God for the wonder of what was accomplished in the cross.

WEEK 8: EXODUS 21-24

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. Scan through the various laws of chapters 21-23. What are some of the principles? (Day 1 Q 1)

2. The highpoint of the first half of Exodus occurs in Exodus 24:9-11. How does it look forward to our future? (Day 5 Q2)

3. If the greatest gift we can receive from God is to enjoy His presence how might we apply this truth? (Day 5 Q3)

WEEK 8: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

WEEK 9: EXODUS 32-34

God's holiness is brilliant and terrifying and now we see the implications. Israel's sin threatened everything- Moses' status before God. (Exodus 32:32), God's continuing presence with them. (Exodus 33:3), their entire future. But Moses interceded and God heard his plea just as He hears Jesus today.

Week 9: Day 1

READ EXODUS 32:1-14

Israel spent four hundred years enslaved in an idolatrous nation. It is perhaps no surprise that on their release they quickly revert to idolatry.

1. What do you learn about idolatry in this passage?

GOD HATES IDOLATRY

2. Considering Israel's past, what factors made their idolatry then and ours now more likely?

As R.C. Sproul noted about the idol: It "gave no law and demanded no obedience. It had no wrath or justice or holiness to be feared. It was deaf, dumb, and impotent....it could not intrude on their fun and call them to judgement.

3. Considering the attraction of idolatry, what idols have the greatest attraction for you?

PRAY: John Calvin once wrote that "The human heart is a perpetual idol factory." Ask God to reveal your idols to you.

WEEK 9: EXODUS 32-34

Day 2

READ EXODUS 32:15-35

Moses was horrified by Israel's sin. He was furious, (32:19, 20) perplexed at Aron's failure (32:21), distraught at Israel's failure and the impact on God's glory (32:25,26)

1. What do you think motivated Moses' actions?
2. What are the possible reasons for Aaron's tremendous failure?

What the Levites did would have been immensely difficult, requiring deep convictions about the insult to God's glory. Human welfare is the most cherished public value of our day but the greatest safeguard to this is the glory of God.

3. Consider three ways in which a concern for God's glory might move us to take difficult actions today?

PRAY: Moses for all his good intentions could not have atoned for the sins of the people. Only the sinless Jesus could do that. A deepening gratitude to Jesus is our best ally in fighting sin. Pray that God will grow this in you.

GOD HATES IDOLATRY

Day 3

READ EXODUS 33:1-34:9

This chapter opens with God not reconciled to the people and not willing to go with them to the land. In His sovereign purposes, God did intend to go but it would require Moses' intercession..

1. Consider God's language up until v 14. In what ways does He distance Himself from Israel?

2. Consider Moses' prayer in v's 12-16. What is the basis of his plea?

3. We will see more about God's glory on day 5 but what do you learn of it in v's 18-23?

4. God's presence is perilous but consider why is it essential?

"The longing of the redeemed and the goal of their redemption is to behold the glory of God."
A.W. Pink

PRAY: Just as exposure to evil pollutes us, so exposure to glory transforms us. No doubt this was true of Joshua (32:17; 33:11) which explains his future role in Israel's history. Ask God for a greater and greater appreciation of His glory in the face of Christ.

WEEK 9: EXODUS 32-34

Day 4

READ EXODUS 34:8-28

In common usage, "jealousy" is almost always a negative trait but this is not always so. This is why adultery is such a hurtful crime. It never comes without deep wounds because the love of two who are betrothed is an exclusive love. This kind of love is rightly jealous!

1. What factors in this covenant renewal speak of the exclusive privilege and obligation of a covenant with God?

While the Gibeonites will later deceive Israel into making a treaty (Joshua 9) :Israel was forbidden to do this with the nations in the land (v 15). The goal was to reduce the risk of being seduced to worship their gods.

2. In reconfirming the covenant, God again summarises His law. What questions, if any, do these commands raise for you?

3. Jesus' prayer is not for His disciples to be taken out of the world but to be protected whilst in the world. How do we uphold the spirit of the command to Israel while living among those of the world?

PRAY: In the world but not of the world. Ask for God's help to meet the challenge of this call.

GOD HATES IDOLATRY

Day 5

READ EXODUS 34:29-35 & 2 CORINTHIANS 3:7-18

1. Try to summarise. When was Moses veiled and when was he unveiled?
2. What did you learn of God's glory in this passage and in the following: Exodus 33:19,20 & Exodus 34:5-7)
3. In 2 Corinthians 3, the ministry of Paul's gospel is "unveiled". What does Paul mean by this? (see John 1:14,18; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 2 Corinthians 4:4,6)
4. The gospel is far more glorious than the old covenant over which Moses presided. How should this give us confidence in commending it to others?

PRAY: Sin makes us blind to the truth of God's goodness. Consider your 3:1:1 friends and ask again that God will be merciful to them opening their eyes to see what is hidden from them.

WEEK 9: EXODUS 32-34

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. What do you learn about idolatry in Exodus 32? (Day 1 Q1)

2. Consider Moses' prayer in Exodus 33:12-16. What is the basis of his plea to God? (Day 3 Q2)

3. Consider three ways in which a concern for God's glory might move us to take difficult actions today? (Day 2 Q3)

WEEK 9: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

WEEK 10: EXODUS 25-40

Apart from the golden calf scandal (next week), the tabernacle dominates the remaining chapters of Exodus- nearly half the book! Why? Because it promised something lost since Eden- a meeting place between God and Mankind. (Exodus 25:8, 22, 30 & 29:45). God's goal in saving Israel was to bring them to Himself to worship. Worship is always the goal of God's rescue. Not merely singing but the glad surrender of ourselves to enjoy God. Worship isn't a means to anything- it is itself the end.

Week 10: Day 1

READ EXODUS 25 & 26

The tabernacle was like an oriental palace in which Yahweh as king dwelled among His people. It pointed backward to Eden and forward to Jesus and heaven itself. These chapters take us from the Most Holy Place to the outer coverings of the tent.

1. From these chapters and a scan of Exodus 27-30, what do you notice about the tabernacle and the materials from which it was made?

GOD DWELLS AMONG US

2. Like Eden, the tabernacle opened to the east. (Genesis 3:24 & Exodus 27:13-15). What do these furnishings tell us about God?

a. The Ark containing God's words (Exodus 25:10-22)

b. The table with eating utensils (Exodus 25:23-30 & Revelation 3:20)

c. The lampstand shaped like a tree (Exodus 25:31-40 & Genesis 2:9)

3. The instructions for the tabernacle were highly detailed. (v's 9 & 40) What would this have said to Moses and his people about worshipping Yahweh?

PRAY: We are inclined to think that worshipping God is largely a matter of our own choice. The tabernacle prescriptions warn otherwise. Praise God that He enables us to come near in Jesus.

WEEK 10: EXODUS 25-40

Day 2

READ EXODUS 27

We're now in the outer court which any Israelite could enter. The altar of burnt offering, was the first thing seen on entering. Like the burnt offerings at the foot of Mt Sinai in Exodus 24:5, these were to make atonement for the people.

1. What would this altar have said to the worshipper about God? (Exodus 29:35-43)

2. The lampstands, shaped like the tree of life were to be kept burning night and day. (Exodus 27:20,21) How did this point to Jesus? (John 1:4,5,9 & John 8:12)

3. What do you notice about the materials used in the courtyard? What was this designed to say about God?

PRAY: Yesterday we recognised our inclination to think that worship is easy and likewise today that forgiveness is easy. The sacrifice of Jesus says that it wasn't. Praise God for Him.

GOD DWELLS AMONG US

Day 3

READ EXODUS 28:1-43

The clothing of the priests matched the materials of the Most Holy and the Holy Place. They are richly ornate. The words 'holy', 'sacred', and 'consecrate' all translate the same Hebrew word family which speak of the holy, 'otherness' of God.

1. What seems to be the core role of the priests, according to these verses? (See especially verses 1, 9-12, 29, 30, 38)

2. What highlights the need for priests? (see Exodus 28:35, 38, 43)

The consecration of the priests in Exodus 29 again speaks of the inability of people to enter God's presence in their natural sinful state. Multiple sacrifices, ceremonial washing, special clothing & preparation of the altar. A seven day ordination ceremony was needed for God to dwell among His people. (Exodus 29:46)

3. How does Exodus 29:42 show the need for an even greater priest to come? (See Hebrews 10:1-3)

"Before the Throne of God Above, I have a strong and perfect plea, a great high priest whose name is love, who ever lives and pleads for me."

Sovereign Grace Music

PRAY: Thank God that Jesus is our great High Priest who ever lives and pleads for me". Pour out your heart to Him today.

WEEK 10: EXODUS 25-40

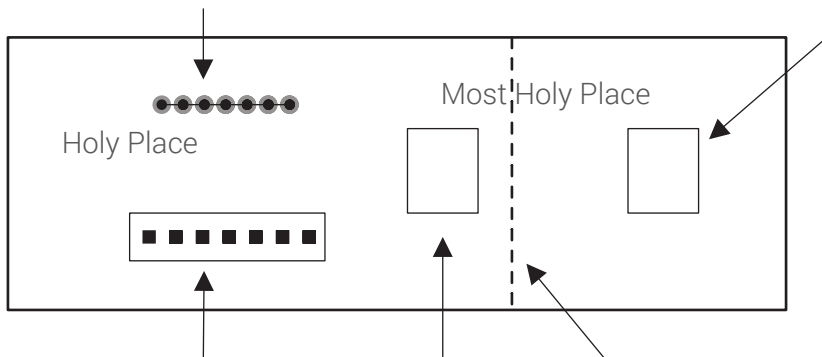
Day 4

READ EXODUS 31 & EXODUS 40:33-38

Chapters 35-40 repeat much of 25-31 as Moses details Israel's obedience in building the tabernacle. In Jesus, God is able to dwell among His people by the Spirit in His church- the true tabernacle of God.

1. Consider the account of Bezalel and Oholiab. How do they foreshadow the way God builds His church today? (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)

2. Use the plan view below to label a diagram of the tabernacle including compass directions, ark, lamp stand, table, altar of burnt offering, courtyard, Most Holy Place.



Contents of the Ark:

GOD DWELLS AMONG US

3. The tabernacle was where God could dwell among His people and speak to them. If this is as great a blessing as God thinks it is, how might it shape our actions and decisions?

PRAY: Consider God's goodness. He chose us of His own good pleasure, made promises to us, kept and rescued us for Himself to bless us through His own presence. Praise God for His goodness.

WEEK 10: EXODUS 25-40

Day 5

SCAN EXODUS

The Old Testament sets up various patterns or “types”. These foreshadowings were to help us understand Jesus when He came. They appear in Eden, emerge in Exodus and are fulfilled in Jesus. Use the clues below to fill in the various “types” in column 3. Show how these are fulfilled by Jesus -the “antitype” in column 4.

The Kingdom of God

Type	Eden	Exodus	Jesus
Mediator	None	Exodus 34:33-35	1 Timothy 2:5
Sanctuary	The Garden	Exodus 25:8	John 1:14
Word of God	God’s Command	Exodus 20:1ff	2 Timothy 3:16
Priest	Adam & Eve	Exodus 40:12-15	Hebrews 7:23-25
Sacrifice	Abel’s offering	Exodus 12:21-23	Hebrews 10:10

PRAY: Praise God for His wisdom that spans the ages and for the gift of His Son in whom we enjoy every good blessing that comes from His hand.

GOD DWELLS AMONG US

"He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will he not also with Him graciously give us all things?"

Romans 8:32

FOR GROWTH GROUP PREPARATION

1. From these chapters and a scan of Exodus 27-30, what do you notice about the tabernacle and the materials from which it was made? (Day 1 Q1)
2. The instructions for the tabernacle were highly detailed. (v's 9 & 40) What would this have said to Moses and his people about worshipping Yahweh? (Day 1 Q3)
4. The tabernacle was where God could dwell among His people and speak to them. If this is as great a blessing as God thinks it is, how might it shape our actions and decisions? (Day 4 Q3)

WEEK 10: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

WEEK 10: PRAYER POINTS & NOTES

