



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Exodus 20 – God Forms a People

GETTING STARTED

How do you tend to react when someone “commands, or makes demands” of you? Why?
In what way has the 10 commandments influenced your walk with God?

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?
What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

What was the purpose of God giving the law (10 commandments) to the people of Israel?
What did Jesus mean in Matt. 22:40 that, all the law and the prophets hang on these 2 commandments?

In what ways can we both misinterpret and misuse God’s law (word) in a way that conflict with Matt. 22? Consider how Jesus is reacting against the Pharisees

What does it mean for you that the law are not conditions for our salvation, but an invitation to live in relationship to God and one another?

Dave made this statement considering God’s law (rules or boundaries)

“God invites us into a relationship with Him out of His saving grace and into the boundaries that form us into His people.”

In what way do you see this playing out in God giving the law to Israel after their deliverance from Egypt and wanderings in the wilderness?

In what way is the law good, but fails to transform us? (Read Romans 7:14-21)

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Exodus 20:1-17]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however, good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.) Work through this quickly, the answers are fairly obvious.

Who spoke these words? (20:1)

How did God describe Himself? (20:2)

*What are we commanded not to put before God? (20:3)

*What did God tell us not to make? (20:4)

What is the consequence of bowing before false gods? (20:5)

To whom does God express His love? (20:6)

How are we to consider using the name of the Lord? (20:7)

How is the Sabbath to be honored? (20:8-11)

What is the benefit of honoring parents? (20:12)

How are we commanded to treat one another? (20:13-17)

*How were the Israelites to honor God? (20:24)

In what ways were the Israelites to act around God's altar? (20:25-26)

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

Why was God so specific in giving the Law?

Why does God not want us to commit sins against Him and others?

What people, things, and other loyalties sometimes captivate your attention more than God?

How do we put space between us and God?

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?

What do you need to stop, start or do differently as a result of reading this passage?

How can we pray for each other?