

STUDY GUIDE

EXODUS



Part 4: The God Who is Near

EXODUS SERIES PART 4: The God Who is Near

20:18-21	“That you may not sin”
20:22-23:19	Covenant Commands
23:20-33	Covenant Promises
24:1-18	Covenant Confirmed
25:1-27:21	“That I may dwell in their midst”
28:1-29:46	The Purpose of the Priests
30:1-31:18	The Reason for the Rituals
32:1-35	The Golden Calf
33:1-23	Is God with Us?
34:1-9	Behold, Your God!
34:10-35	Covenant Renewal
35:1-39:43	Building the Tabernacle
40:1-38	The Glory of God with Us

Week 1: August 31, 2025
“That you may not sin”

READ: Exodus 20:18-21

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- Why do you think the people trembled in response to God giving them the law? Why would they rather hear from Moses than directly from God?
- A common message when God meets His people is “do not fear”. Why is this such a needed exhortation? Why does the presence of God drive out our fear?
- How does the fear of God lead to obeying God?
- Do you tend to want to ‘keep your distance’ from God, or are you quick to approach Him? Why might that be the case?
- How is it that fearing God can actually draw us closer to Him, rather than leave us far off?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 2: September 7, 2025

Covenant Commands

READ: Exodus 20:22-23:19

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- How would you summarize the main theme(s) of this section of Scripture?
- What does this section teach you about God's heart for people? How can we come to see people with the same kind of compassion as God does?
- Which of these laws seem especially relevant to our modern day? Even though we are not under the Mosaic Law, how do these principles give us wisdom on how we ought to live as God's people?
- What is a Biblical definition of justice? How are we seeking to promote that in our own society?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 3: September 14, 2025

Covenant Promises

READ: Exodus 23:20-33

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What does God promise Israel in these verses? Even though these promises were not made to us, how does reflecting on His promises in the past help us to trust His faithfulness today?
- How can we pay careful attention to God's voice? What helps you to do this?
- What reason(s) does God give for driving out the nations "little by little"? Do you ever feel like God works too slowly in your life? What reason(s) might He have for doing this?
- How is it that false gods in our midst can become a snare to us? What false gods are especially dangerous to us today?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 4: September 21, 2025
Covenant Confirmed

READ: Exodus 24:1-18

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What is Israel's response to hearing God's Word? Is this your response? Why, or why not?
- In what ways are you tempted to pick and choose which parts of God's Word you like or will obey? How does our world help or hurt in this?
- Why is the sprinkling of blood a part of the covenant ceremony? Why is eating a meal a part of the covenant ceremony?
- How can we be more eager to hear from God? How can we put what we hear into practice?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 5: September 28, 2025
“That I may dwell in their midst”

READ: Exodus 25:1-27:21

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What is the main purpose behind the tabernacle? Why does God command it to be built?
- God designs this tabernacle as a way to be close to His people, yet there are still barriers to getting too close. How should we make sense of these two realities?
- God moved the hearts of the people of Israel to give toward this. Why does God repeatedly call us toward generosity?
- Reading this section, we can see that God is very specific about all the details of this tabernacle. Why is it important for us to know that God cares about even the small details, not just the big picture? How might this impact your response to Him this week?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 6: October 5, 2025

The Purpose of the Priests

READ: Exodus 28:1-29:46

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What does this section teach us about the role of the priests? What were their responsibilities?
- Why is there such attention given to the consecration of the priests?
- God states repeatedly that His goal is to meet with the people and dwell among them. How does the presence of God with you encourage you today?
- The author of Hebrews (4:14-5:10) says that Jesus is our high priest. How does this section of Exodus help us to appreciate Christ's priestly work for us?
- The New Testament refers to all believers as priests (1 Peter 2:9). When compared to the Old Testament priesthood, what is the same, and what is different? What might this section of Exodus teach us about how we are to live as priests?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 7: October 12, 2025

The Reason for the Rituals

READ: Exodus 30:1–31:18

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What is the purpose behind the various rituals, cleansings, and purifications that God commands?
- God gifted people with various abilities in order to fulfill what He had commanded. How can you use the talents that God has given you to glorify Him and serve His purposes?
- Why do you think God says the Sabbath should be kept “above all”? Why was the Sabbath this significant for Israel?
- Why is a reiteration of the Sabbath commands included amidst instructions for the tabernacle and worship?
- God gave Israel great work to do, and God commanded Israel to rest from that work regularly. How do we honor God with our rhythms of work and rest?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 8: October 19, 2025

The Golden Calf

READ: Exodus 32:1-35

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- Israel turned to idolatry when God didn't work as quickly as they thought He should. How can we hold fast to God in the seasons of waiting in our lives?
- Why do you think Aaron so quickly gave in to what the people were saying? How can we, unlike Aaron, hold fast to God when others around us are not?
- What reason(s) does Moses give in His prayer as for why God should not wipe out His people? How does this teach us to pray?
- 1 Timothy 2:5 says that we have one Mediator, Jesus Christ. How does reading about Moses's intercession for Israel help you better appreciate Christ's intercession for you?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 9: October 26, 2025

Is God with Us?

READ: Exodus 33:1-23

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- Why is it that, even after the Lord told Israel He would give them the promised land, this is described as a “disastrous word” and the people mourned? What should this teach us about what the real point of the promised land was?
- Moses refused to accept the blessings of God apart from the person of God. If God came to you offering you all the earthly joys you wanted, without Him, would you take it?
- Why is the presence of God our greatest joy? How can we grow to love His presence more and more?
- Moses spoke to God as one “speaks to his friend”. Jesus calls us friends (15:15): how should this shape the way we relate to him today?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 10: November 2, 2025
Behold, Your God!

READ: Exodus 34:1-9

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- How have you seen God's mercy, grace, patience, love, and faithfulness in your life?
- Which of these attributes of God revealed here are you most likely to emphasize? Which are you most likely to de-emphasize?
- Immediately upon hearing this, Moses bowed in worship. Why is worship the proper response to who God is? How do we worship God?
- How can we display more of the character of God in our lives this week?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 11: November 9, 2025

Covenant Renewal

READ: Exodus 34:10-35

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- God promises to display His awesome power to His people. Where have you seen God's power displayed in your life?
- As God makes a covenant with Israel, He warns them not to make a covenant with the nations. Why is it that the covenant people of God cannot be in the same kind of relationship with the world around us?
- Moses's face was shining after spending time with God. While we might not physically show it, what evidences should there be in our lives when we spend time with God? How can you tell?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 12: November 16, 2025

Building the Tabernacle

READ: Exodus 35:1-39:43

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- This is a lengthy section of Scripture. How would you summarize the main theme(s)?
- How does this passage challenge you to be generous? How can you be generous with your money and/or talents?
- The phrase “as the LORD had commanded Moses” is repeated often. How can we take great care to do all the Lord has commanded us?
- When God requires His people to do something, God also supplies what is needed to do it. Where might that be an encouragement to you this week?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 13: November 23, 2025

The Glory of God with Us

READ: Exodus 40:1-38

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- Why is it so significant that we do all that God commands, even in the smallest details?
- The whole book of Exodus has, in a sense, been leading up to this moment: God's glory filling the tabernacle. Why is this so significant?
- There is great joy at the tabernacle being completed, yet even Moses cannot enter the tent of meeting. In this way, the story is still not complete; how does this point us toward the work of Christ?
- How does this section (and this book) give you a deeper appreciation for God's presence? How does knowing God is with you comfort you today?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Notes:

Notes:



grace church

Grace Church | 1142 West Main St. | Ashland, OH 44805
419.289.8334 | ashlandgrace.church