



SESSION SEVEN

**THE CALL OF MOSES:
CALLED, GUIDED, & PROVIDED**

READ: GENESIS 35; 37-47

THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL

After his test, Abraham received a solemn oath from God that confirmed all the promises God had ever made to him: become a great nation, receive a great name, and become a blessing to the whole world.

However it would take time as God had said during the Covenant of the Pieces.

Abraham knew that the promise of being the ancestor of kings and the father of nations would be fulfilled in his descendants. But Abraham also was told by God that his descendants would "*reside as aliens in a land not their own, where they shall be enslaved and oppressed for four hundred years*" (Gen. 15:13) and that "judgment" will be brought on the nation they serve (15:14).

Abraham's grandson Jacob (later changed to Israel) has 12 sons who all have many children. The whole clan ends up moving to Egypt because of a famine and a crazy mix-up that began with an attempt to sell their brother Joseph into slavery. The living is good so they stay there permanently... For about 400 years to be exact.

What was God doing with the people of Israel for all that time?
What about the promises to Abraham?

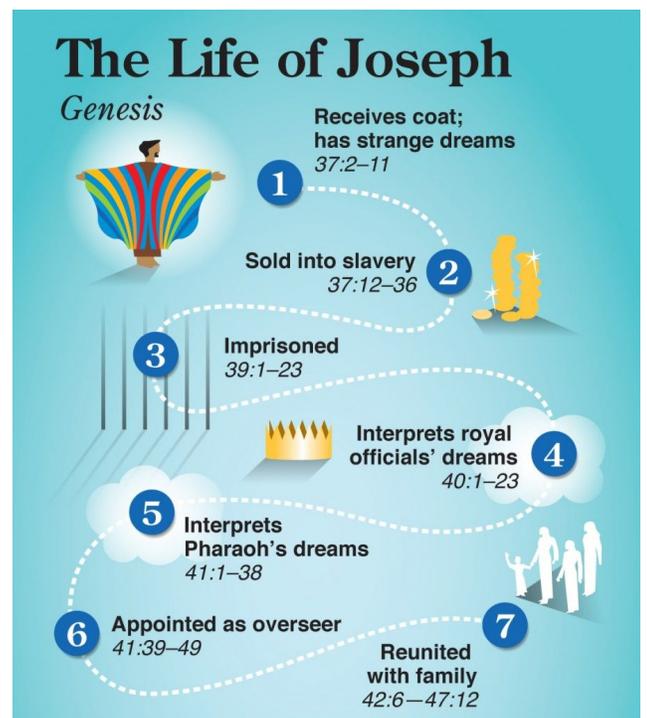
Actually, this long time was necessary for God to fulfill his promises to Abraham. A nation isn't born overnight, the tribes of Jacob needed time to grow. In Egypt, with its mighty Nile river and fertile fields, the people of Israel had plenty of food and safety allowing them to grow numerous (as the stars).

WATCH

Before diving into the sessions, watch the Bible Project video on **Exodus 1-18 Overview** video (on YouTube) on the story of Moses & the Israelites.



The story of Joseph and his brothers is told in the Dreamworks' movie *Joseph King of Dreams*.



READ: EXODUS 2

REMEMBERING HIS PEOPLE

Problem: the Israelites ended up as slaves of the Egyptians

At first the situation of slavery was fairly mild, but it became increasingly harsh as the Egyptians felt increasingly threatened by these fertile foreigners in their land.

The Israelites *"groaned under their bondage, and cried out for help... and God heard their groaning, and remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob"* (Ex 2:23-24).

So God set in motion his plan to take his people out of Egypt.

PLAN A

God's plan began with the birth of a baby boy named Moses who was a *"special child"* (Ex 2:2).

The Bible doesn't say why he was special... According to tradition he might have glowed brightly at birth like Noah did. Maybe Moses inherited the same gene!

But Moses' mother had to hide him because Pharaoh had decided to kill Hebrew baby boys.

When Moses was too big to be hidden any longer, his mother put him in a basket and floated him down the Nile river. This was the ancient equivalent of leaving a baby on someone's doorstep, which was especially effective in Egypt because whoever found the baby might think it was a gift from the Nile god.

This works well as Moses was found and adopted by the richest girl in Egypt, Pharaoh's daughter.

Moses' biological mother gets paid by the government to nurse her own baby.

Moses is in line to rise in the royal court until he is in a position to influence state policy toward the Hebrews and get them released. In hindsight, this was probably God's "Plan A" for freeing Israel.

Moses just had to stay put and stay out of trouble until he had the power to free his people legally.



READ: EXODUS 3-4

NOBODY'S PERFECT

Of course Moses had to mess up the plan. He gets hotheaded and kills an Egyptian who's beating up one of his fellow Hebrews. Then he buries the body in the sand (Ex 2:11-12). Really, bury it in the sand? As expected, the sand blows off, the body is found, Moses is discovered, and he has to flee to the far side of the desert to get away from his adopted grandfather the Pharaoh (Ex 2:13-15).

He ends up tending sheep for a living (Ex 3:1), which is the ancient equivalent of flipping burgers. He was raised a prince of Egypt, and Egyptians considered shepherding so disgusting they wouldn't eat with shepherds (Gen 46:34). What a fall from the palace to the out-house!

40 years of shepherding later, Moses is a married old man.

We can imagine his memories of Egypt and his palace upbringing have faded with time.

With no future or ambition left, Moses is trying to stay alive and live out his days with his wife and son.

THE BURNING BUSH

God once again intervenes in Moses' life. Appearing in the form of a burning bush, God shows himself to Moses and reveals to him the secret of his name.

While us as Americans are more into the sound of names, the ancients were more concerned with their *meaning* because the name represented the person.

So it's a dramatic moment when Moses says, "*If they ask me 'what is his name,' what shall I say?*" and God responds, "*I AM WHO I AM.*" *Say 'I AM' has sent me to you*" (Ex 3:13-14).

In saying 'I AM,' God identifies himself as the one God who actually exists....

All other gods are fake, they ARE NOT. But God IS.



God then commissions him:

*"You shall say to Pharaoh,
'Israel is my first-born son, and I say to you,
Let my son go that he may serve me.'"* (Ex 4:22-23).

This reminds us of Adam, the firstborn son of God, and is almost like God is adopting the Israelites.

THE RELUCTANT PROPHET

After God commissioned Moses, he raised a series of objections and for each God had an answer.

1. Moses asks what name should he give, then God gives him His name (Ex 3:13-14)
2. Moses asks "But what if they don't believe me or listen to me?", then God gives him 2 signs to prove that God appeared to him (Ex 4:1-9)
3. Moses tells God "I have never been eloquent... I am slow of speech and tongue" (Ex 4:11)

This last objection is interesting as Moses was educated (Acts 7:21-22) and so his 'slowness of speech and tongue' was understood by the ancients as implying he had a speech impediment (i.e. stutter).

God's response was to remind Moses that He was the Creator and is the one who makes people be mute, deaf, seeing, or blind (Ex 4:11). God reassured Moses that He will assist Moses in speaking and tell him what to say.

Still Moses objected saying "*If you please, my Lord, send someone else!*" (Ex 4:13).

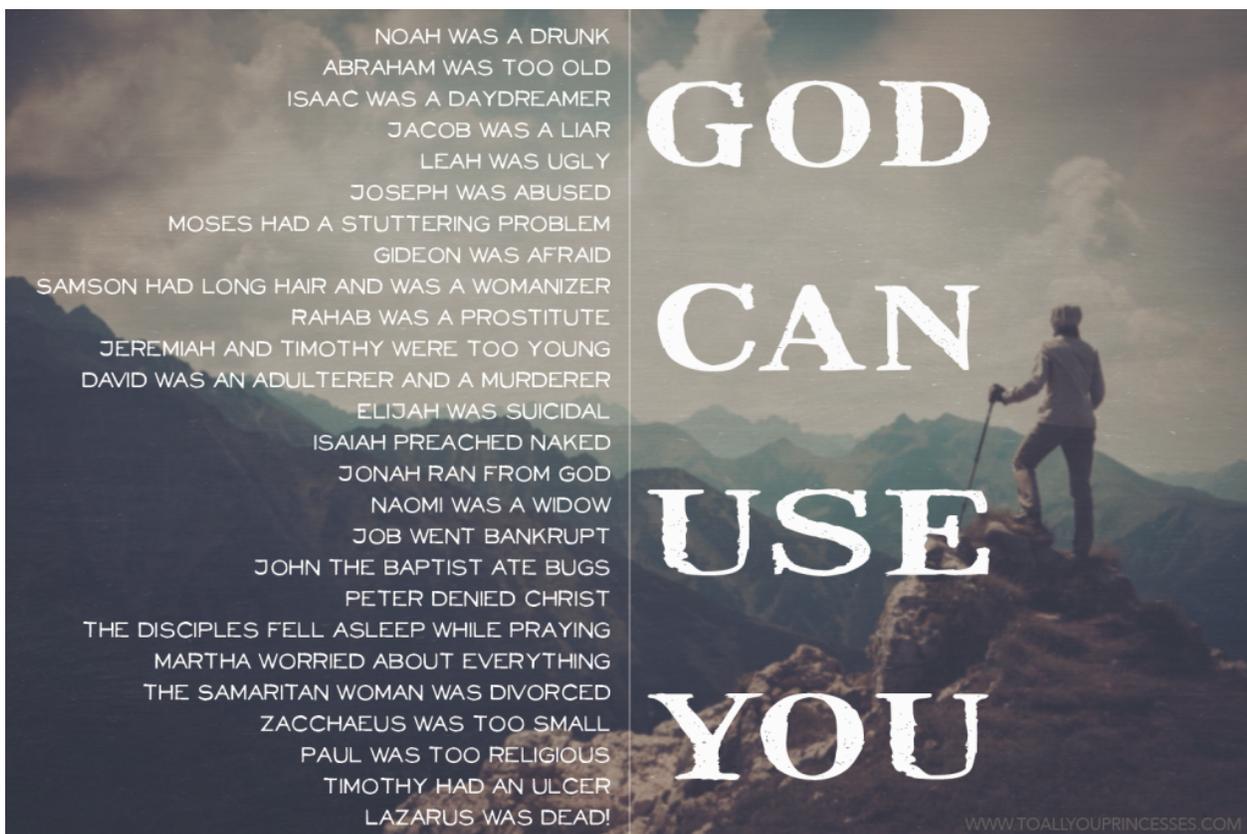
This angered God, who then conceded and said that Moses' brother Aaron would be his spokesman.

After each of his objections, God has an answer and reassures Moses.

This exchange helps remind us that **God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called!**

Moses was a **murderer**, he **stuttered**, and he was **reluctant** even objecting to God's commission...

Yet throughout salvation history we see that God uses flawed, broken, imperfect people like Moses to do amazing things for his glory and to accomplish his perfect plan.





Exodus 3:1-4

**WHAT ARE YOUR FLAWS AND WEAKNESSES?
WRITE THEM IN THE FIRE AND AROUND THE BUSH ABOVE.
OFFER THEM UP IN PRAYER FOR GOD TO USE**

REFLECT

What did you learn in this session that really made you stop and think?

Who are some imperfect people from history, pop culture, the Church, etc. who have gone on to do amazing things?

What weaknesses of yours could potentially become one of your strengths?

DISCUSS

God heard the groaning of the Israelites, what injustices have we been groaning about in our society today that we ought to lift up to God?

CHALLENGE

PRAY:

Light a candle and spend time talking with God. Open your prayer by echoing the words of Moses to God at the burning bush saying "Here I am" (Ex 3:4).

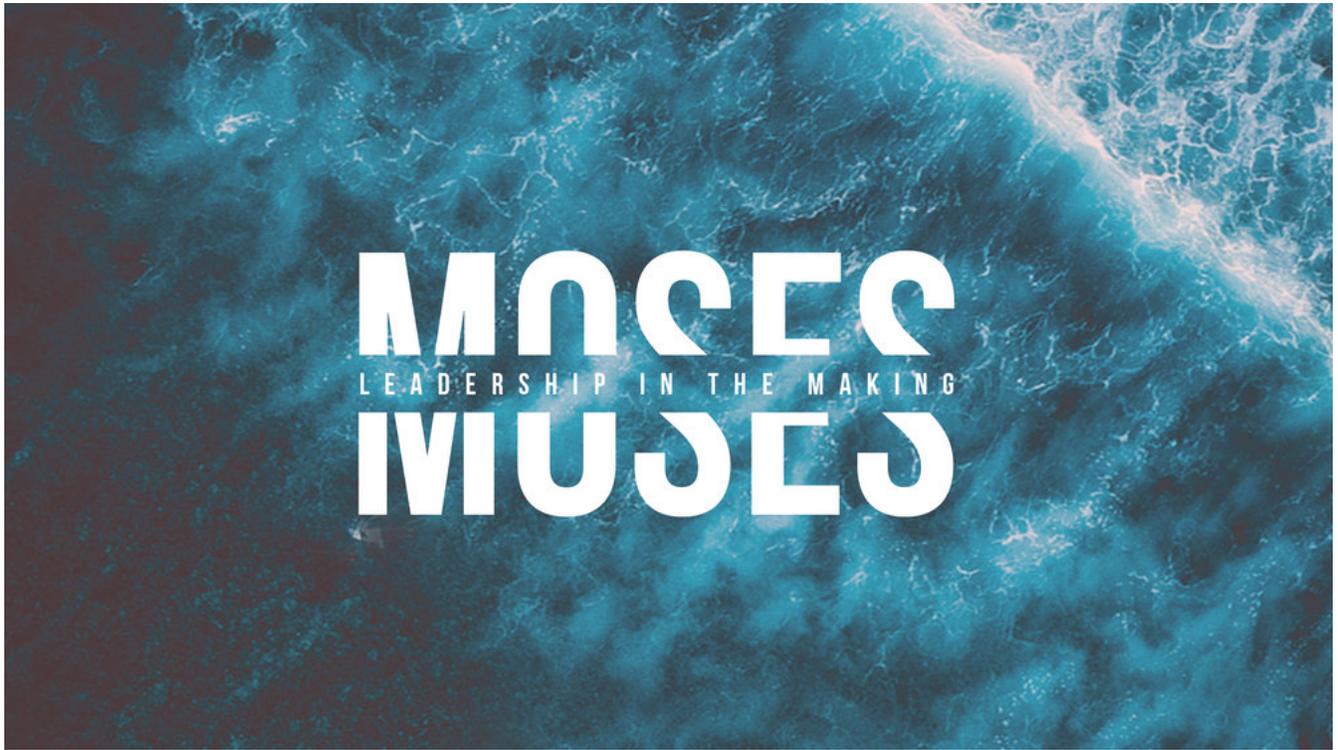
DO:

Play the song or watch the music video of "Broken Things" by Matthew West, listen or sing along and say a prayer for God to use you though we are imperfect and broken.

CREATE:

Make your own burning bush! You can find inspiration online for burning bush suncatchers, luminaries, collages, etc. Put it somewhere where it will remind you that God is calling you too!



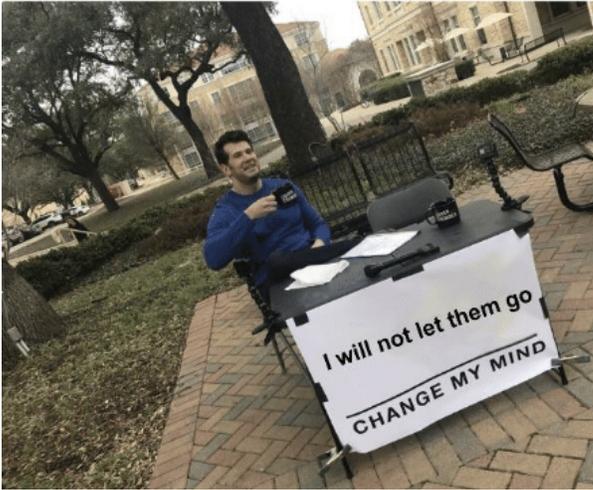


SESSION EIGHT

THE PLAGUES & PASSOVER

READ: EXODUS 5, 7-14

Pharaoh:



PHARAOH'S HARDNESS OF HEART

So Moses with his brother Aaron went and told Pharaoh that God said to "Let my people go" so they can worship Him in the wilderness (Ex 5:1).

Pharaoh isn't pleased with Moses' message... He said 'NO.' Like the CEO of any large corporation, he is not much inclined to let his cheap labor leave for an indefinite vacation, even if it is part of their religion. So his 'No' is a predictable answer, and he even increases everyone's workload to discourage future efforts to negotiate a better labor contract (Ex 5:4-21). This makes the Israelites dejected and angry at Moses.

SHOWDOWN OF THE GODS

The stage is set then for a showdown of the gods: the 10 plagues were contests between the Lord, God of the Israelites, and the gods of the Egyptians.

Pharaoh himself was considered a god by the Egyptians, and for whatever he couldn't handle there was an entire crew of Egyptian gods that 'had his back.'

So God tells Moses "I have made you a god to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother will be your prophet" (Ex 7:1). In calling Moses a "god to Pharaoh" God didn't mean Moses was a divine being but that he was Pharaoh's superior with God on his side. And just as a prophet speaks for God, Aaron in this match would speak on Moses' behalf.

OUR GOD IS GREATER

As an instrument of God, Moses performed many signs attempting to convince Pharaoh to allow the Israelites freedom from their slavery to the Egyptians.

For the Israelites they were 'wonders,' but for the Egyptians on the receiving end they were plagues. Just as God told Moses "I Am" at the burning bush, this was to be undeniable proof that the God of Israel actually exists and is stronger than the gods of Egypt who are fake.

DIRECTIONS

Match each of the 10 plagues with the corresponding Egyptian gods and goddesses that God defeated.

THE PLAGUES

1. turning of water to blood (Ex 7:20-24)
2. frogs coming from the Nile river (Ex 7:25-8:11)
3. gnats from the dust of the earth (Ex 8:12-15)
4. swarms of flies (Ex 8:16-28)
5. the pestilence & death of cattle & livestock (Ex 9:1-7)
6. ashes turned to boils & sores (Ex 9:8-12)
7. hail rained down in the form of fire (Ex 9:13-35)
8. locusts sent from the sky (Ex 10: 1-20)
9. 3 days of complete darkness (Ex 10:21-29)
10. death of the firstborn (Ex 11:1-12:30)



EGYPTIAN GODS & GODDESSES

- A. **Ra** - the sun god
- B. **Seth** - god of disorder
- C. **Khepri** - fly-headed god of creation & rebirth
- D. **Heket** - frog-headed goddess of fertility
- E. **Hathor** - cow-headed goddess of love & protection
- F. **Nut** - goddess of the sky
- G. **Geb** - god of the earth
- H. **Hapi** - water-bearer god of the Nile river
- I. **Isis** - goddess of medicine & peace
- J. **Pharaoh** - king of Egypt, incarnation of Ra, firstborn of his family

MATCHING KEY
1.H 3.G 5.E 7.F 9.
2.D 4.C 6.I 8.B 10.

10 times God, through Moses, gave Pharaoh a chance to change his mind & turn to the one true God.

10 times Pharaoh because of his pride refuses and each time God increases the severity of the consequences of the plagues suffered for disobedience to his request.

Eventually Pharaoh's evil reaches a point of no return, and God bends Pharaoh's evil towards his own redemptive purposes and lures him into his own destruction.



PASSOVER

With the final plague, God turned the tables on Pharaoh...

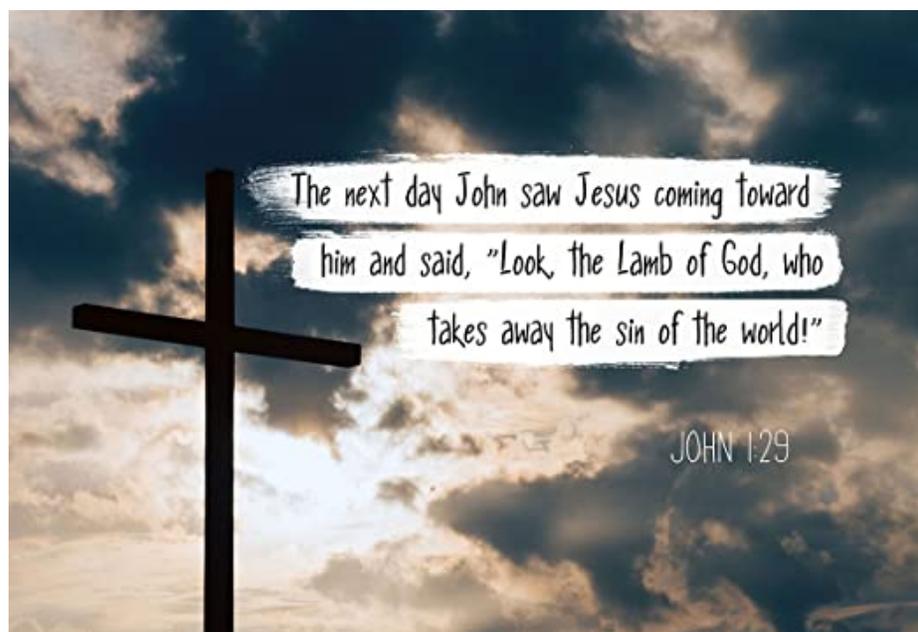
Just as Pharaoh had killed all the sons of the Israelites, so God will kill the first born with a final plague. But unlike Pharaoh, God provides a means of escape through the blood of the lamb.

On the night before Israel left Egypt, the Israelites sacrificed a young spotless lamb and painted its blood on the door frame of their house. So when the divine plague came over Egypt, the houses covered with the blood of the lamb were passed over (hence 'Pass-over') and the son spared.

Every year since the Israelites have celebrated Passover and reenacted that night to remember and celebrate God's justice and mercy.

But Pharaoh because of his pride and rebellion, loses his own son.

Many of the Egyptians eventually got the point of the plagues (Ex 9:20), and after the last plague Pharaoh himself gave up and let the Israelites leave the land (Ex 12:32).



DIRECTIONS

Watch the Catholic Central video "Eucharist 101" (on YouTube), and then with the help of your family write out some connections between the Passover in Exodus 12 and the Last Supper.

PASSOVER

bread & wine (Ex 12:15)

LAST SUPPER

Jesus shared bread & wine with his disciples (Lk 22:19)

EXODUS

Even after the plagues, the drama was far from over.

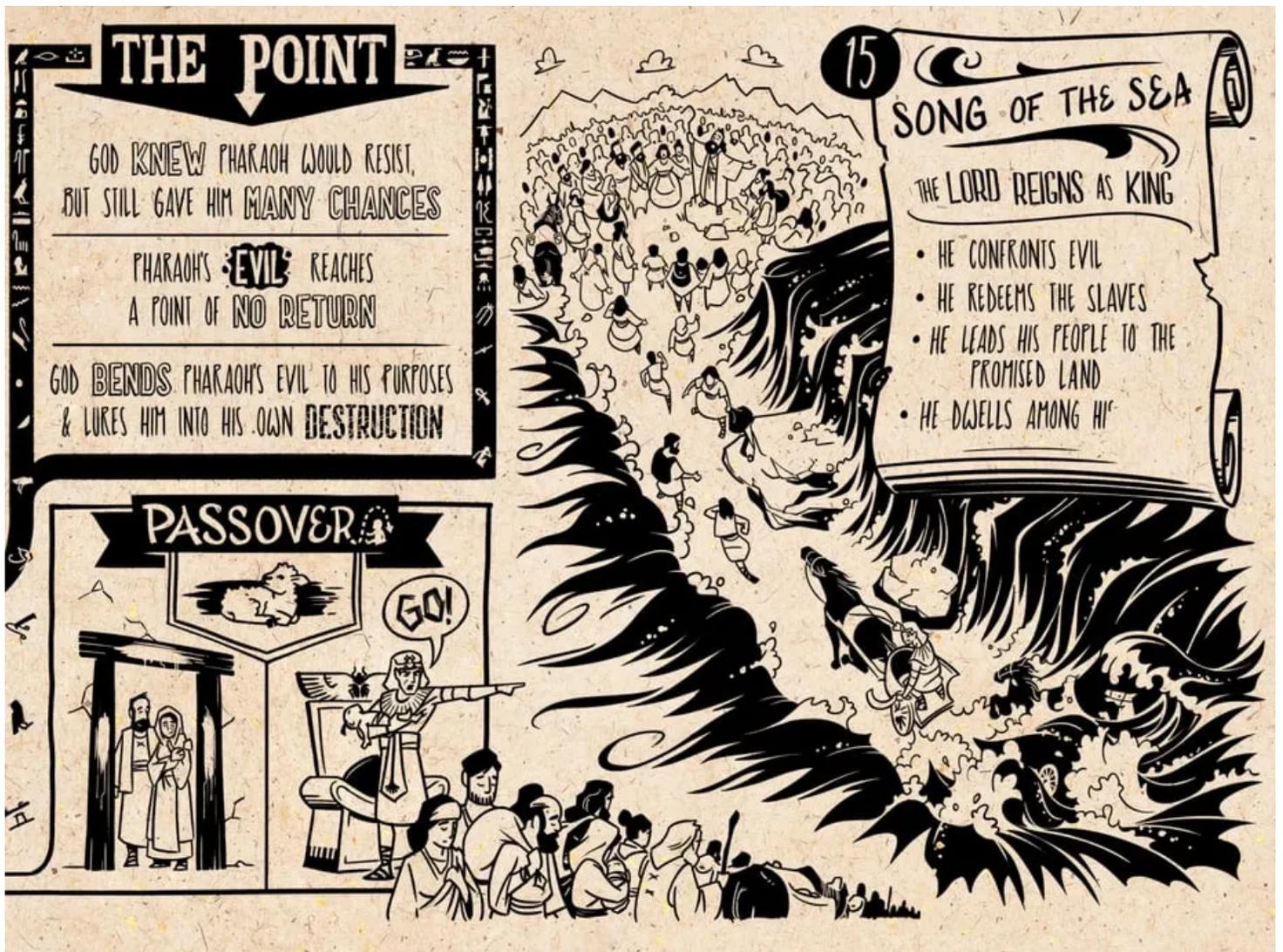
No sooner than the Israelites begin to make their exodus or 'departure' from Egypt, Pharaoh changes his mind and he gathers his army to chase after them for a final showdown.

As the Israelites pass through the waters of the sea safely (thanks to Moses parting the sea), Pharaoh charges towards his own destruction as the once divided sea crashed together over the pursuing soldiers (Ex 15).

The Exodus story concludes with the first song in the Bible: the Song of the Sea.

The final line declares that the Lord reigns as king.

But the Israelites not too long after would begin grumbling, showing their own hardness of heart.



REFLECT

What did you learn in this session that really made you stop and think?

*God gave Pharaoh 10 opportunities to convert and believe in Him.
Have you had a change of heart or conversion in your own life?*

Have you ever been so joyful and grateful you could sing?

DISCUSS

*Moses performed the plagues as undeniable proof that God exists and is stronger than the gods of Egypt.
What signs have you seen in your own life that point to the fact that God exists?*

CHALLENGE

PRAY:

Reflect on the story of Pharaoh and pray "If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts" (Hebrews 3:15, Psalm 95:8).

DO:

Play the song or watch the music video of "Our God" by Chris Tomlin, listen or sing along and let it remind you that our God is greater than any other gods or challenges.





SESSION NINE

MOSES ON MOUNT SINAI

A photograph of a desert landscape. In the background, there are several jagged, rocky mountain peaks under a clear sky. The foreground shows a sandy, hilly area with sparse, dry vegetation, including a prominent, gnarled tree with a dark nest-like structure in its branches. The overall color palette is warm, with shades of orange, red, and brown.

The LORD bless you and keep you!
The LORD let his face shine upon you,
and be gracious to you!
The LORD look upon you kindly
and give you peace!

- Numbers 6:24-26

READ: EXODUS 19-40



WATCH

Before diving into the sessions, watch the Bible Project video on **Exodus 19-40 Overview** video (on YouTube) on the story of Moses & the Israelites in the desert.

THE ROUTE OF THE ISRAELITES

Once the Israelites were safely across the sea and in the desert, their enemies were no longer the Egyptians but basic hunger and thirst. No longer singing the praises of God they grumbled and complained. So God caused water to spring out of the rocks and it rained down a mysterious substance from heaven. It was so weird the Israelites asked "Man-hu?" (What is it?) and now is known as 'manna.'

At last, the Israelites reached their destination: Sinai (Ex 19). The same mountain where God had spoken years earlier to Moses out of a burning bush... And where again Moses would speak with God.

ISRAEL, THE FIRST-BORN SON

God has brought the Israelites, under Moses, out to Sinai to make a covenant with them. God has already told Pharaoh, "Israel is my first-born son" (Ex 4:22), so it seems God's purpose in this Sinai covenant is to adopt Israel formally into that filial relationship.

God makes a promise to Israel just before appearing to them on Sinai:

"If you will obey my voice and keep my covenant... you shall be to me a royal priesthood and a holy nation." (Ex19:5-6)

So the Israelites are a new Adam! God is adopting them into sonship and giving them a royal (kingly) and priestly status.

So does this mean God has no plan for the rest of humanity? **NO.**

God does not say "Israel is my only son" but that "Israel is my *first-born* son" implying that the other nations are younger sons of God (Dt 32:8).

Plus, priests need laypeople to serve and kings need subjects to rule.

So when God says to Israel "You will be a royal priesthood," he suggests that the rest of the world, the other nations, are going to be the laity and subjects that the Israelites will rule and serve.

This was God's 'Plan A' for the Israelites.

ASCENDING THE MOUNTAIN

That was the plan, but it had to be put into practice.

So God's awesome presence descended on Mount Sinai.

An earthquake, fire, darkness, a cloud, smoke, and lightning surrounded the mountain.

In Exodus 20, Moses goes up on the mount and God gives him the Ten Commandments written on tablets of stone. As a result of being in God's presence, Moses' face began to glow (Ex 34:39-30)!

What was the purpose of the Ten Commandments? Every family has to have rules.

I imagine that if you were to adopt a child into your family, one of the first things to do would be to explain the basic family rules.

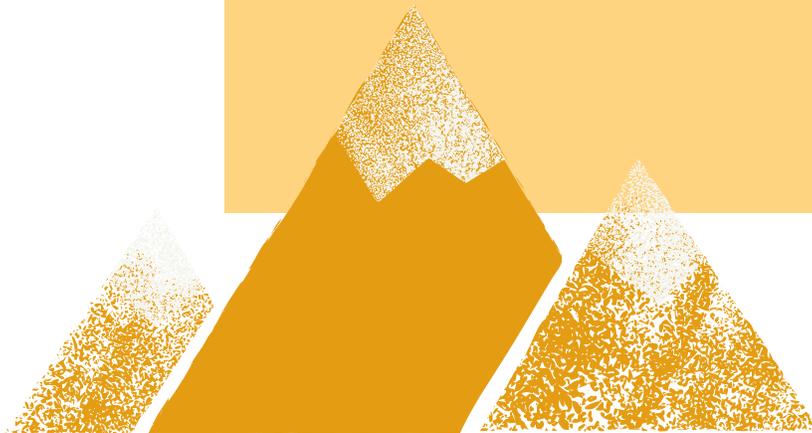
So as God is adopting Israel as his "firstborn son" at Sinai he gave the Ten Commandments as the family rules. The first 3 govern the relationship with the father while the next 7 govern relationships with fellow siblings-other human beings.

BEHAVING TOWARD YOUR FATHER

1. You shall have no other gods beside me.
2. Do not misuse the Name of God.
3. Keep the Sabbath day holy.

BEHAVING TOWARD YOUR SIBLINGS

4. Honor your mother & father
5. Do not kill
6. Do not commit adultery
7. Do not steal
8. Do not lie
9. Do not covet anyone's spouse
10. Do not covet anyone's possessions



**WHEN WE EXAMINE THE 10 COMMANDMENTS,
THE OBVIOUS WAYS OF VIOLATING THEM ARE APPARENT,
BUT WHAT ARE MORE SUBTLE WAYS WE CAN BREAK THEM?
LIST EXAMPLES OF MORE SUBTLE WAYS BELOW**

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. You shall have no other gods beside me.
2. Do not misuse the Name of God.
3. Keep the Sabbath day holy.
4. Honor your mother & father
5. Do not kill
6. Do not commit adultery
7. Do not steal
8. Do not lie
9. Do not covet anyone's spouse
10. Do not covet anyone's possessions

EXAMPLE

Many of us have not violated commandment #5 to not kill, but we may have killed someone's reputation with gossip.

NEW RULES, NEW ADAM, NEW EDEN

Exodus 21-23 gives the Israelites additional rules derived from the Ten Commandments intended to govern their life as a nation. After all, the Israelites are not only a family but a nation with a government and civil laws.

In Exodus 24, Moses goes to the foot of Mount Sinai and builds an altar there, offers sacrifices to God, then reads all the commandments to the people. The Israelites cry in response:

"All that the Lord has spoken, we will do!" (Ex 24:3-7)

Afterward, Moses takes half the blood of the sacrifices and sprinkles it on the people, and the other half he throws against the altar meaning that they now shared one blood.

God and the people were now family!

But the ritual also had a darker meaning...

If either party were to break the covenant, may their blood be shed.

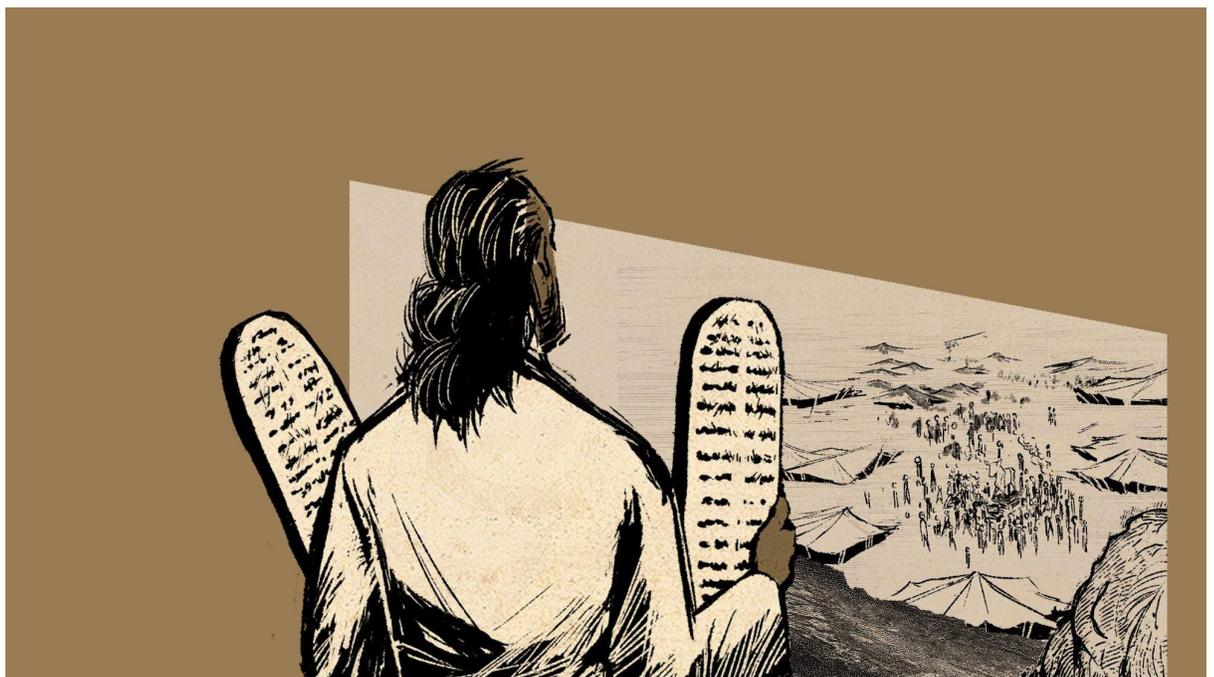
Families eat together, and so after the ceremony God invites Moses and the leaders up to Sinai to share a meal with him. *"The saw God, and ate and drank"* (Ex 24:11).

God has not been so close to human beings since Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden.

Since the Garden served as the place where God could meet and talk with his children, the children of Israel are going to need a new "Eden" where they can meet with God.

It would also help if this "Eden" were portable since they are currently wandering around the desert...

So God brings Moses back up Mount Sinai to get instructions for the Tabernacle, a big tent for meeting with God, decorated with reminders of Eden (Ex 25-31).



END OF THE HONEYMOON

It would be nice if the story of Israel and God ended here: they have become family and live happily ever after.

But no.

Moses was up on the mountain getting instructions for the Tabernacle too long...

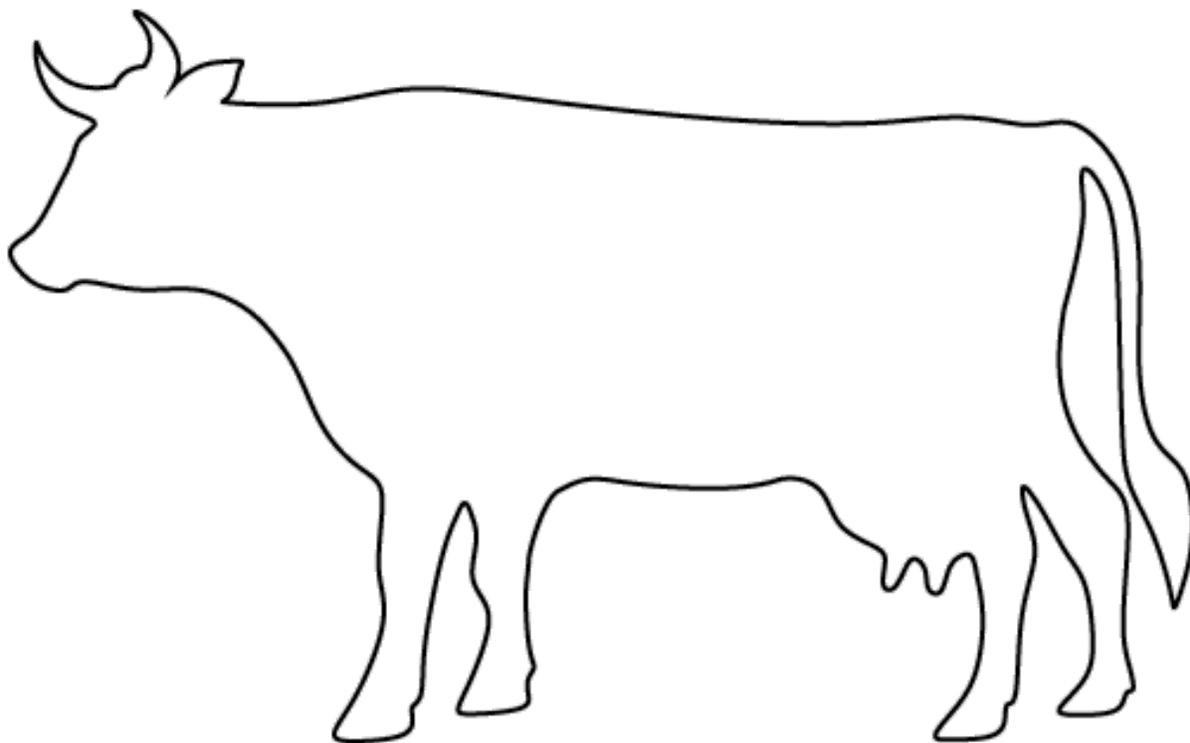
Or so the Israelites thought. Figuring he was "missing in action" they decided to abandon this new religion and go back to their old pagan religion: bull worship, like they had done in Egypt. They pressured Aaron to make them a golden bull calf and offered sacrifices to this idol.

Moses came down the mountain and is not pleased.

Smashing the tablets with the Ten Commandments, he rallies his own tribe, the Levites, and imposes martial law to regain control of the people who had gotten out of hand with the partying. For their courage in stopping the rebellion, Moses promises the Levites the status of priests for Israel.



**LIKE THE ISRAELITES WE HAVE ALL GONE LOOKING FOR HAPPINESS
IN THE WRONG PLACES AND TURNED OUR BACKS ON THE TRUTH.**



WHAT'S YOUR GOLDEN CALF?

WHAT IN YOUR LIFE DO YOU TEND TO WORSHIP OR PRIORITIZE MORE THAN GOD?

WHAT DO YOU TEND TO TURN TO RATHER THAN GOD?

WRITE IT ON THE GOLDEN CALF.

SECOND SINAI

Moses goes back up Mount Sinai to plead with God to take Israel back into the covenant (Ex 33-34). God consents and remakes the covenant with Israel in Exodus 34, but things aren't the same. The covenant has been damaged and even though it's been renewed it isn't as good as before.

When God remakes the covenant with Israel, he includes a great many more laws. Christians have viewed these additional laws after the calf as having a penitential purpose. Just as when the priest gives you a penance like a prayer to say or a good deed to perform when you go to confession, the extra laws are assigned to Israel because of Israel's sin and are meant to teach certain spiritual truths. St. Paul seems to teach this 'penitential' view of the Law in Galatians 3:19

"Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions."

After an entire year at Mount Sinai, God has given all the additional laws and Moses has organized the people into marching order for entry into the Promised Land (Nm 1-10).

EXAMPLE

For example, the entire book of Leviticus with all its laws about sacrifices and staying "clean" is added into the covenant after the golden calf. The laws of sacrifice usually involved killing an animal, which teaches that sin leads to death. Since God is life, turning away from him always means death for someone or something.



DESERT DESERTERS: ABANDONING GOD IN THE WILDERNESS

In the old TV show *Gilligan's Island*, castaways shipwrecked on an island for years after what was supposed to be a "3 hour tour- a 3 hour tour!" as the theme song goes.

Similarly, the trip to the promised land was supposed to be short, but ended up lasting a lifetime. The Israelites end up wandering in the desert for *40 years!*

Why??? Because of more rebellions.

In the Book of Numbers, there are 9 rebellions against God.

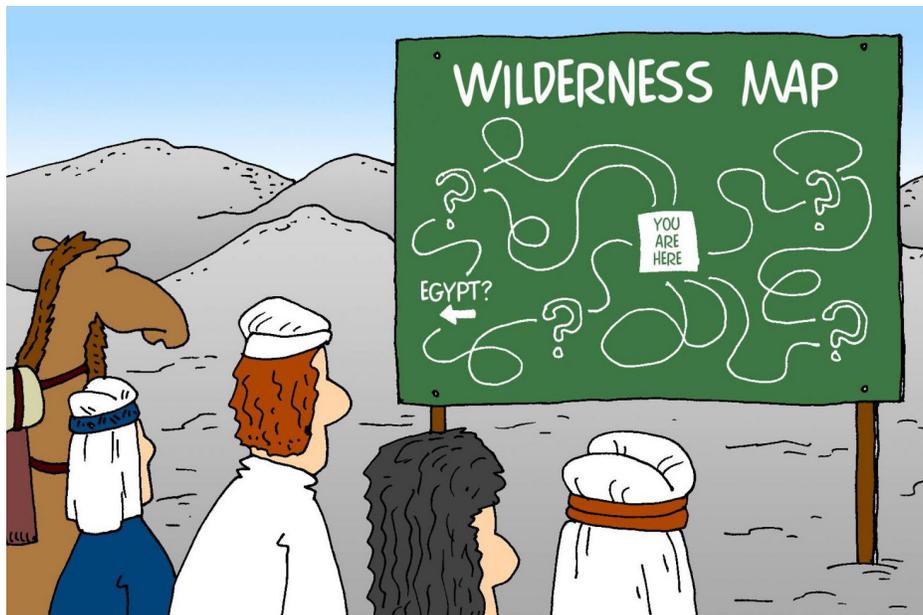
The people of Israel don't leave Sinai until chapter 10 and they start rebelling against God in chapter 11! They complain about everything-the food, the water, how Moses is running things.

At one point or another everyone gets involved from the poor to the wealthy and even influential Aaron and Miriam, Moses' own siblings. It just seems like the whole 40 years was one long revolt.

In Numbers 14, the people of Israel sent spies into the Promised Land to scout it out and got a bad report that the Canaanites seem stronger than the Israelites (Nm 13:31)

in response, the people of Israel panic, lose their faith, and want to kill Moses and choose a new leader to lead them back to Egypt. In a repeat of the golden calf event, Moses has to again plead with God on behalf of the people. Again, God relents and forgives the people in response to Moses' prayers.

But God insists the current generation will die while wandering in the desert, and only their children will enter into the Promised Land.



The second generation, the children of those who left Egypt, grow up and seem promising, especially after they are blessed 4 times by a prophet named Balaam (Nm 22-24).

Our hopes are crushed when the second generation also falls into the trap of worshiping pagan gods. So at the end of Numbers, things are pretty low as the people of Israel have been rebelling for 40 years in the wilderness.

DEUTERONOMY, THE LONGEST HOMILY

At this juncture, there is a final remaking of the covenant through Moses called 'Deuteronomy', which comes from the Greek words *deutero* meaning "second" and *nomos* meaning "law" making it the "second law".

But really it's the 3rd law, but the ancient folks who compiled the Bible lumped first and second Sinai together and counted 2 law-givings: Sinai and Deuteronomy.

What happens in Deuteronomy is very different than what happened at Sinai.

- Sinai took place within a year after Exodus while Deuteronomy takes place 40 years later
- The Sinai events occurred near the famous mountain while Deuteronomy takes place in Moab, a flat land just outside the land of Israel to the east (Dt 1:5)
- While God appeared in thunder, cloud, and lightning at Sinai, God does not appear to the people at all in Deuteronomy

God does speak to Moses privately so all the people see is Moses (who is not in a good mood) preaching to the for 34 chapters (that's a super long homily!!!).

He reminds the people of all the times they broke the covenant and rebelled against God (Dt 9:1-29, 32:1-47), then gives them the laws of the covenant *again* while adding yet *more* laws, including some that were not so great. As Jesus will point out, some of the laws Moses gives in Deuteronomy weren't God's best laws but were given because of the 'hardness of heart' of the Israelites (Mt 19:8).

For example, Moses forbids the Israelites in Deuteronomy from making peace treaties with the people in the Promised Land. While not the highest or best way, Moses fear that anything less than total war will result in the Israelites getting sucked into the pagan ways of the people of the land (Dt 20:18). Unfortunately, his fears are well founded as the Israelites end up not waging total war and eventually adopting the paganism of the Canaanites.

For better or worse, Deuteronomy became the 3rd and final making of the covenant through Moses. After giving the laws of Deuteronomy, Moses climbs Mount Pisgah in the land of Moab where God gives him a view of the entire Promised Land before he dies (Dt 34:1-8). Sadly, he never completed his mission to bring the Israelites into their homeland.

Now the Israelites have 2 choices before them:

1. choose hard-hearted rebellion OR
2. choose to love & listen to God.



THE COVENANT WITH MOSES

For our purposes, we'll concentrate on the first Sinai when comparing to the other covenants.

GOD'S PART

God rescued the Israelites from Egypt by his grace, and promises to come and personally dwell in their midst and bring them into the land promised to Abraham (Ex 3:7-20)

HUMANITY'S PART

Obedience to the terms of the covenant embodied in the laws given by God at Mount Sinai (including the 10 Commandments) (Ex 20-23)

Mediator: Moses

Mountain: Sinai

Organization: nation

Scripture: Exodus 19:24

Greater Goal:

God has chosen Israel as a covenant people to make them into a royal & priestly nation that will follow Him & so represent God's character to all nations.
Fulfills Genesis 15 promise to Abraham of a great nation.

REFLECT

How is this session calling you to change?

What does our culture worship?

In what ways do you feel called to rebel against today's culture?

DISCUSS

Think about a disturbing story you've seen in the news lately. What happened?

Which of the Ten Commandments were broken?

How would our world be different if everyone lived by the Ten Commandments?

CHALLENGE

PRAY:

Moses teaches us that to pray means to have an intimate conversation with God.

At the burning bush, Moses asked God questions and God responded.

Have a personal conversation with God this week.

DO:

The next time you find someone getting under your skin, complaining about you, or being inconsiderate towards you try praying for them like Moses did with the Israelites.

