

Exodus 19–20

Day 1: Read Exodus 19:1–8.

- Day 2: Read Exodus 19:9–25.**

- What image does it bring to your mind?

7. What does Exodus 19 show us about God?

Day 3: Read Exodus 20:1–17, Matthew 22:34–40, and Galatians 3:23–25.

8. God's commandments reveal his holiness. Read through the commandments and list any characteristics of God that you find mentioned or implied.

9. How does Jesus sum up the commandments? (Matt. 22:34–40)

10. According to the Galatians passage, what was the real purpose of the commandments?

Day 4: Read Exodus 20:1–17 and Matthew 19:16–26.

11. Look over each commandment and write down any questions you may have to discuss with your group.

12. Which commandments have to do with honoring God? Which ones concentrate on relationships with other people?

13. Which commandments are *not* phrased as prohibitions? (i.e., "You shall not...")

Do you find it easier to obey a prohibition, or an exhortation to do something positive? Why?

14. Studying the commandments shows us our own sin as well as God's holiness. What promises of God can we look to when we are overwhelmed by our own sinfulness? (For example, Zeph. 3:17; 1 Jn. 1:9; share *your* favorite with your group.)

Day 5: Read Exodus 20:18–25.

15. Why do the people remain at a distance from the mountain? (20:18; 19:12)

a. What do the people want Moses to do for them? (20:19)

b. How is this a picture of what Jesus does for his people? (1 Tim. 2:5)

16. What reason does Moses give for God's terrifying appearance in clouds, darkness, thunder, and lightning? (20:20)

17. What does it mean to you to "fear the Lord"?

Do you think that "the fear of the Lord" is enough to keep us from sinning? (Rom. 7:21–25; 1 Cor. 10:13.) Why or why not?