SLAVES SET FREE A Study in the Book of Exodus Holy Bible, New International Version ©2011

The Holiness of God Exodus 19—20

"Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." Exodus 14:13-14

Da	y 1: Read Exodus 19:1–8.
1.	In 19:4, God reminds Moses and the Israelites that he carried them out of Egypt "on eagles' wings" and brought them to himself. What, if anything, did God require of the Israelites in order to be rescued?
2.	How is this a picture of God's dealing with us? (Eph. 2:8–9.)
3.	What does he require of them now? (19:5–6)
Da	y 2: Read Exodus 19:9–25.
4.	Remember how Moses felt and responded when God spoke to him at the burning bush (Ex. 3:5–6). a. What would happen to the Israelites if they touched the mountain while God was there? (19:12)
	b. Why do you think there was such a penalty? (Hab. 1:13)
5.	What does God require of his people to prepare for his arrival on Mt. Sinai? (19:10-15)
6.	Describe the scene of God's arrival on Mt. Sinai. (19:16–19; 🕮* Deut. 5:22–27; Heb. 12:18–20)

What image does it bring to your mind?

	y 3: Read Exodus 20:1–17, Matthew 22:34–40, and Galatians 3:23–25. 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?
	y 4: Read Exodus 20:1–17 and Matthew 19:16–26. Look over each commandment and write down any questions you may have to discuss wit your group.
12.	. Which commandments have to do with honoring God? Which ones concentrate on relationships with other people?
13	. Which commandments are <i>not</i> 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?

7. What does Exodus 19 show us about God?

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 <i>your</i> 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?

This lesson on Exodus is adapted from "Slaves Set Free" by New Life Glenside Women's Bible Study, 1996-1997. $*\square$ indicates the passage is for further study.