

Family Worship Guide

Week 23

Read

Exodus 19

- **Questions**

1. In this chapter, God is preparing the people of Israel to receive His covenant with them. We will read about that covenant next week. What is the first thing that God wanted Moses to tell the Israelites (verse 4)?

God told Moses to remind the people of His faithfulness. In order to trust God moving into the future, they needed to remember God's goodness to them in the past.

2. In verses 5-6, God told Moses that if the people would obey Him, He would do three things for them. What were those three things?

A) God would make Israel His treasured possession - which tells us how much God loves His people.

B) God would make them a kingdom of priests - which means that everyone could know God personally, know His Word, and serve Him.

C) God would make them a holy nation - which means they would be radically different and set apart from all other people.

3. How did the people of Israel feel when they saw the storm, heard the thunder, and heard the actual voice of God speaking to Moses?

In verse 16 it says that the people were so scared that they were shaking! They felt, saw, and heard the mighty power and holiness of God. God wanted the Israelites to respect Him and respect His chosen leader, Moses.

4. Look back at the three promises in question 2. These amazing promises were not just for the people of Israel. They are for all who believe in Jesus. Let's look at this in the New Testament. Can someone read 1 Peter 2:9. What does it mean for us today to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation?

1Peter 2:9 promises that because of Christ, God gives us the opportunity to "declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light."

5. When people look at our family do you think they see us as "set apart" and different from the world around us, or do we blend in? What can we do together as a family to "declare the praises of Him who called us out of darkness?"

Talk about ways your family can partner together and shine for Christ...to your extended family, to your neighbors, in your church, and beyond.

Praise

Praise God for giving us:

Himself

Grace and Mercy

Salvation

Our family

Our church family

What has God done in our family this week that we can give him praise?

Pray

Use the ACTS model (Example below.)

- ADORATION – “He keeps His promises.”
- CONFESSION – “Confess times when we have not obeyed”
- THANKSGIVING – “How has God been faithful to your family?”
- SUPPLICATION – “God encourages us to bring all of our needs and burdens to Him.”
- Pray that we will live obediently to God’s Word.
- Pray for your neighbors by name! Pray that God will bless them!
- Pray for Carpenter’s our Missionaries in Rwanda. Please pray for their leadership. Pray for their family!

Memorize

“Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession.”

- Exodus 19:5

Digging Deeper

(Optional activities)

Kids Fun

Encourage the teens to lead this part of the family worship time.

Supplies needed: None

To start our family worship time today, I need to ask you a question. Don’t answer it out loud, just think of your answer.

Here is the question, “What is something that you are afraid of?”

Think about it for a moment.

OK, rather than just tell us what you are thinking about, you get to act it out - like charades.

You can’t. Give each person the chance to act out something that they are afraid of, and have others guess what it is. Parents do it too!

You all did a great job. There sure are a lot of things that make us afraid. So afraid that they trembled in fear.

Have you ever been so afraid that you were shaking?

Listen to anyone who wants to share a story.

When we read this true story from the Bible, I think we will all understand why the Israelites were so afraid. I think if we were in their shoes we would be shaking too.

For Teens

1. God wants His people to be "set apart" and never blend in with the world around us. The world sends the exact opposite message. Blend in! Don't stand out! Don't be different! Do you ever feel pressure to blend in?

Try and have an honest conversation about pressures your son or daughter is feeling to blend in with how they dress, music they listen to, language they use, and how they spend their time.

2. Do you know any Christian teenagers who are "set apart" and who do not blend in with the non-Christian world around them? What do you think about them?

It often bothers us when we see another Christian who is living more passionately for Christ than we are. Sometimes we even make fun of other Christians for being different. But do we have the courage to be different?

Do we have the courage to live in such a way that everyone who knows us, knows that we are a follower of Jesus Christ? God loves you and will empower you to live for Him. A great book for teenager girls on building confidence in Christ: "Shine" by Amy Rienow.

2. Read Matthew 27:45-55. What is similar about that passage compared with Exodus 19. Why do you think this is important?

In part, God wanted the world to know that just as He was announcing a covenant with the people at Mount Sinai, He was now announcing His new covenant in Jesus' death and resurrection.