

God Speaks from Mt. Sinai

Exodus 19:1-25

The Big Idea: We are set apart for Christ, that the world may know Him.

Read the passage

Story Summary for Children:

Exactly three months after leaving Egypt, the Israelites arrived at the mountain of God, where God had appeared to Moses in a burning bush. God invited Moses to the top of the mountain and spoke to him. God commanded Moses to tell the Israelites that even though the whole world belonged to him, he would make the people of Israel his treasured possession, a kingdom of priests, and a special nation. But the people must stand at the base of the mountain, and even touch the mountain of God. So Moses gave this message to the elders, and the people agreed to do whatever God commanded them.

God told Moses to prepare the people to meet with him. In three days, God was going to come down to the mountain and speak to the people, but they had to get ready by washing their clothes. This represented getting clean on the inside by having pure hearts. On the third day, God appeared in smoke and fire at the top of the mountain. God's presence was so powerful that the mountain trembled like an earthquake. It was an amazing and terrifying sight.

Family Lesson Discussion Questions:

1. Where did the Israelites camp? (at Mt. Sinai, the mountain of God)
2. What message did God have for the Israelites? (I will make you my treasured possession)
3. What was the Israelites' response? (they agreed to follow God's commands)
4. How did the Israelites have to prepare to meet God? (God required clean clothes & pure hearts)

Family Lesson Discussion Questions:

1. How does God feel about us? (he considers us his special people, his most precious possession)
2. What does God want from us? (to love and obey him)
3. What would it be like if God appeared right now? (it would be amazing and scary)
4. Why is it important to have pure hearts? (because God is holy, he requires the same from us)

Memory Verse: *"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."* (1 Peter 2:9)

Parents: Talk with your family about how God makes your family different from other families. Do something together to show Christ to someone in your family's life.

A Look Ahead: Next week the passage is Exodus 20:1-21 and the Big Idea will be, "We love God and people so that the world may see Jesus." Ask your family, "What do you like about your friends?" You may also want to read next week's passage with your child(ren) and start explaining the story.