



Small Group Guide: Where Is Your Allegiance?

Sermon Series: Exodus: YHWY Goes to War

Text: Exodus 2:11-4:31

Theme: Aligning Our Lives Fully with Yahweh

Opening Prayer

Begin by asking God to search hearts and reveal areas where full allegiance to Him may be lacking. Pray for honesty, grace, and transformation during your time together.

Icebreaker Question

What's something you wear or display that shows your allegiance to something (a sports team, school, workplace, etc.)? Why is that allegiance important to you?

Sermon Summary

Moses lived 40 years as an Egyptian, 40 years as a Midianite, but was born Hebrew. When God called him at the burning bush, Moses had to decide where his true allegiance lay. God revealed Himself as "Yahweh" (I AM/I will be what I will be), demonstrating that He is self-sufficient, not bound by regions, and faithful to His promises. The sermon challenges us to examine our lives: if someone looked at everything we do, say, and think, where would they say our allegiance lies?

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Text

1. **What stands out to you most about Moses' identity crisis?** How did growing up in three different cultures (Hebrew birth, Egyptian upbringing, Midianite family) complicate his sense of belonging?
2. **Why was the name "Yahweh" (I AM) so significant?** What does this name reveal about God's character compared to the regional gods of that time?
3. **Read Exodus 3:7-8.** What four things does God say He has done regarding Israel's suffering? What does this tell us about God's character?

Personal Reflection

4. **Moses kept making excuses to God (can't speak well, send someone else).** What excuses do we commonly make when God calls us to something? Why do we struggle to trust that "I will be with you" is enough?
5. **The sermon stated: "What makes us effective for the Lord is the presence of the Lord with us."** How does this challenge our culture's emphasis on natural talent, education, or experience?
6. **Moses hadn't circumcised his son—a sign of partial allegiance to God.** What are some ways we might give God "most" of our lives but hold something back?

Application

7. **If someone examined your calendar, bank statements, social media, and conversations, where would they say your allegiance lies?** (This is meant for personal reflection, not to shame—be gracious with one another.)
8. **The sermon defined worship as "a lifestyle that says God is worthy of everything I am and have."** How does this definition differ from how we typically think of worship? What would change in your daily life if you embraced this definition?
9. **Read Romans 12:1-2.** How does Paul's call to be "living sacrifices" connect with the theme of full allegiance to God?

Key Takeaways

- ✓ **God hears, remembers, sees, and knows His people.** He is faithful to His promises even when we can't see His plan unfolding.
- ✓ **God's presence is the guarantee of success in His plans.** Our abilities matter less than His presence with us.
- ✓ **Yahweh demands full allegiance, not partial commitment.** We cannot serve God with only part of our hearts.

- ✓ **Worship is not a moment or activity—it's a lifestyle.** Everything we do should declare God's worthiness.
- ✓ **The proper response to God revealing Himself is to believe and repent.** Repentance means realigning every aspect of our lives to God.

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

Choose ONE area below to focus on this week:

Option 1: The Allegiance Audit

- Spend 30 minutes journaling through these questions:
 - Where do I spend most of my time?
 - Where do I spend most of my money?
 - What do I think about most?
 - What do I talk about most?
- Ask God to show you where your allegiance truly lies and one specific area to realign.

Option 2: The "I Will Be With You" Exercise

- Identify one thing God has been calling you to do that you've been avoiding.
- Write down all your excuses (like Moses did).
- Next to each excuse, write: "But God says, 'I will be with you.'"
- Take one step of obedience this week, trusting in His presence.

Option 3: Worship Lifestyle Shift

- Choose one daily activity (commute, meal prep, exercise, etc.).
- Intentionally do it this week as an act of worship—thanking God, praying, or simply doing it with excellence for His glory.
- Journal about how this changes your perspective.

Scripture Memory

Matthew 22:37

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

Closing Reflection

Read this quote from the sermon together:

"Yahweh wants your full allegiance in every aspect of your life. Every aspect of your life... Worship is a life that says, God, everything I am and everything I have, I align to you because only you are worthy."

Final Question: What is one specific way you will realign your life to God this week?

Closing Prayer

Pray together using Psalm 139:23-24 as a guide:

"Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!"

Pray for each person's specific area of realignment and for the courage to fully surrender to God's lordship.

Leader Notes

- **Be vulnerable first.** Share your own struggles with divided allegiance before asking others to share.
- **Create a safe space.** Emphasize that this is about growth, not shame.
- **Don't rush.** It's better to discuss fewer questions deeply than to race through all of them.
- **Follow up.** Check in with group members during the week about their practical applications.