

Study Guide

The sermon this weekend was based on Exodus 19:1-25, which records one of the most dramatic theophanies in Scripture. A *theophany* is a visible manifestation of God's presence. God makes a grand entrance before the Israelites gathered around Mount Sinai.

1. Moses brings the people to Mount Sinai, also known as Horeb (Exo 19:1-2). This is where God appeared to Moses in the burning bush (cp. 3:1ff). What significance do you see in Moses bringing the people of Israel back to the place where he was first called?
2. According to verses 12-13 and verse 21, what boundaries did God place around himself? Why were the people of Israel prohibited from coming into contact with the mountain, yet Moses could approach God (v.3)? What does this tell us about Moses? What does it tell us about God?
3. How did the people need to prepare themselves for the manifestation of God's presence (see verses 14-15)? How does this apply to us in worship?
4. How does creation respond to the manifest presence of the Creator (verse 18)? How did the people respond (verse 16)? What does this tell us about God's power and holiness?

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5. Compare the Israelites experience on Mount Sinai to the way we typically approach God in worship at church. What is different? Is there anything we should do differently in our worship?
6. *Have a volunteer read Matthew 21:1-11.* How does Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday differ from God's entrance on Mount Sinai (see verse 5)? *Now have someone else read Matthew 24:30.* What about the Second Coming of Christ?

Before your prayer time, give people an opportunity to share an area where they are currently struggling in their walk with the Lord, and then pray for them about that. It might be best to split the men and women for this.

Equipping Center Courses—April & May, 2019 beginning April 14

9:00am - I Peter
taught by Bruce Rhodes & Daniel Lane

10:45am - Parenting with Intentionality
taught by Adam & Bethel Gascho