

Connect Group Discussion Guide – 2/26/2023

Exodus 14, 19, 20, 23 The Mosaic Covenant

Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQvR0S5fB8AzraGYts4eQfg> (Posted on Monday)

Audio Only: On Spotify or Apple Podcasts: Connection Point Podcast

Opening discussion: Put yourself in the story... imagine hearing the roaring sound of horses and chariots and seeing the rising dust coming up behind you. What would you think? Do you have anything in your life like this?

Highlights

- The plagues (Exodus 7-11) represent God's ability to de-create if he so chooses. Plagues end with darkness and death.
- **Exodus 14:13-14** Moses tells the people as THEY hear the horses and chariots to be still. YAHWEH will fight for you.
 - **How do you still yourself? What does the LORD need to fight for you in your life?**
- **Exodus 14:19-20** God is showing Himself to be the Creator; making all things new.
 - Separating light and darkness (Genesis 1:3-4)
 - Separated waters (Genesis 1:6-7)
 - Dry land appeared to cross over (Genesis 1:9-10)
 - Today, while the world decays, God is still making things new. He wants to do the same for you
 - See **Psalm 51**
 - **Where has/does God show up in your life to make all things new?**
 - **Talk about how to pray for God to make things new, to do something new in yourself. [LEADERS – see note under Prayer below]**
- **Exodus 19:1** Before Moses went back to Egypt at the Burning Bush, God told him to bring the people back to this mountain.
- **Exodus 19:3-6** God is bringing the people back to himself (under slavery they had been separated from God). This is to keep the Abrahamic Covenant – blessing through your descendants.
 - Keep the covenant I'm about to make with you (obey)
 - You will be my treasured possession (chosen people)
 - You will be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation
- **Exodus 19:8-9, 18-19** The people respond we will do everything you have said (but they don't). God comes down off the mountain with Moses so people will hear Him speaking with Moses and trust Him through trusting Moses.
 - **Talk about a time when you "heard" God. Audibly, spirit to spirit, through someone else.**
- **Exodus 20:1-2** Don't forget what I've done for you.
- **Exodus 20:19-20** The people didn't want God to speak directly to them because they were afraid they would die.
 - The Law (starting with the 10 Commandments) is from God to test the people – to make them aware of their sinning.
 - He is testing them to see if they are willing to change the way they live
 - So they can be set apart and a kingdom of priests and a holy nation
 - They are to be different; to be His people
- **Exodus 23:32-33** The church uses this as an excuse not to associate with non-Christians
 - Wherever God is, we are safe. Think of who Jesus went to!

- **Talk about when you have been out of your element, but you've felt safe because you know God is with you?**
- **Exodus 24** – The Covenant Ceremony
- **Exodus 24:3-4** All 12 tribes were represented around the altar. This covenant was for everyone.
- **Exodus 24:5-7** To the Israelites blood represents life (we think of the brain and heart). So the life of the animal is in the bowl of blood.
 - Burnt offering – everything belongs to you, God. A full or complete offering
 - Total devotion
 - Fellowship offering – Thank you for who you are. May we have peace between us
 - Togetherness – share the meat from the offering
- **Exodus 24:8** Moses sprinkled the “blood of the covenant” on the people
 - This points to Jesus through Communion (see Matthew 26:28)
- **The Mosaic Covenant**
 - It's conditional – requires the people to choose to keep it or not
 - If they choose to keep it: blessing. If not: curse
 - Israel is God's chosen people
 - Requires them to be the Kingdom of Priests
 - Requires a specific way to live (The Law)
 - God gives them the promised land
- **Exodus 24:9-11** Moses and the Elders SAW GOD and ate with Him. How??
 - We are incapable of being good enough to be in God's presence and see Him (we are incapable of keeping The Law).
 - Because of the blood of the covenant these men had access to God, and they shared a meal.
 - Because of the blood of the new covenant; the blood of Jesus, you have access to God and can share a meal with Him (Communion)
 - How do we have access to God? Prayer [**LEADERS – see below**]

The Bottom Line

Through the Mosaic Covenant, we learn we are incapable of being good enough. Yet through Jesus, we are able to access our Heavenly Father.

God has done his part through Jesus. What do you choose?

His blood, our devotion

Prayer Suggestion: practice praying! Have EVERYONE pray making something in their life new, or just a praise/access type of prayer. Because there are those who are uncomfortable praying out loud, start the prayer, and then ask everyone to speak just one or two phrases or sentences for what they are praying for.