

THE EXODUS WAY

Discussion Questions 3/22/26

The Golden Calf Temptation

Intro: While waiting on God, the temptation to take control can lead to idolatry. We replace trust in God with self-made solutions. In Exodus 32, Israel trades God's presence for a golden calf, revealing how impatience distorts both worship and identity. Yet even in failure, God responds with both justice and mercy, ultimately making a way through Jesus for His people to return to His presence and purpose.

Story: Give an example of a time you successfully waited on God or a time you failed to wait on God.

Read: Exodus 32

1. Where do you feel the tension of waiting on God the most right now? What makes that season difficult?
2. In the story of the golden calf, what stands out to you most about Israel's decision to create an idol while God was still visibly present?
3. Aaron downplays his responsibility by saying the calf just popped out of the fire. Why is it so easy to minimize or justify our sin?
4. Read Hebrews 12 (emphasis on verses 4-12). How do you personally wrestle with the idea that God is both just (He disciplines) and merciful (He forgives)?
5. What is one daily practice you can commit to this week (even if it's just 5 minutes) that helps you slow down and become more aware of God's presence?

Pray:

- For individuals you know are struggling with sin.
- A deeper awareness of God's presence.
- Forgiveness of our own sins.