

**The Story 06: “New Commands and a New Covenant”**  
**Exodus 19-25 and Leviticus 1**

July 13, 2025

Main Idea: The way we want guidance and the way it is offered to us by our Heavenly Father are usually different.

**Needs-Meeting and Guidance**

Chapter 5 of The Story opens in Exodus 19. We are told that 3 months have passed since leaving their bondage in Egypt. God has provided for them by meeting their needs for food and guiding them with a cloud by day and a pillar of fire at night. These are 2 Ongoing promises still relevant today.

**Rules of Engagement**

Upon reaching the base of Mount Sinai (“mountain of God”) the people would camp there for 1 year. God is in no rush to get them to their destination. During this time He will explain how He plans to take them “back to Eden.” Three major accommodations must be made in order for God to come down and dwell with man.

**First Accommodation – 10 Commands and Guidelines (Exodus 19-20)**

The people are settling into their new life “on the road”. God calls Moses to the mountain called “Sinai” and delivers 10 commandments. The first 4 reflect a proper relationship with God; the last 6, a proper relationship with others. Jesus would later communicate all 10 with just 2: “*Love God and love others*” (Mark 12:30-31). For God’s community with man to work, it must begin with *respect* – for God and others.

**Second Accommodation – The Tabernacle (Exodus 25-26)**

The second accommodation for God to get His people back and dwell with them centers around the Tabernacle. Consider this: Moses is on the mountain receiving all of these instructions from God for 40 days. The people figure he’s dead and lose their hope and their way (Exodus 32:1-4). They create a golden calf and begin to worship it! They have already broken the first 2 commandments, and they haven’t even seen them yet!

**Third Accommodation – Atonement (Leviticus)**

God required a way to create fellowship between a holy God and sinful people. The perfect community God was seeking at creation, is impossible because of sin. Man is not the same as when God created him. Sin has broken the relationship. For God to get us back, our sin must be covered. This is the subject of the latter chapters of *Exodus* and the entire book of *Leviticus*.

**Our “Stand-in”**

We cannot keep the rules, so God demands a sacrifice – the blood of something precious to us. The idea of a bloody offering and animal sacrifice seems primitive and unfair to us. But that is exactly the point. It is unfair! We cannot *cover* or *blot out* our sin on our own. We need a substitute or a “stand-in”. God is laying the groundwork for the rest of the Story and the coming of our once and for all sacrifice, Jesus.

**Family Night Big idea – Read Exodus 20:1-21**

- Elementary School – Ask, “How many commandments did God give Moses? How should you treat your father and mother (v.12)? What does that mean? How did the people react when they saw the lightning and heard thunder?”
- Middle/ High School – Ask, “What ‘other gods’ do people worship today? How do we respect the name of God? What does ‘covet’ mean? Can anyone keep all of the commandments all of the time? What does that tell you?”

Prayer: “Heavenly Father, thank you for Jesus. He is our Savior and we need Him. Amen.”

**Velocity (Middle and High School Students)**

**Velocity:** Meet on Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

**Gravity:** No Gravity. Will resume in August.

**Today’s Songs**

*That’s Who I Praise*.....Branden Lake

*Great Are You Lord*.....All Sons and Daughters

*Glorious Day*.....Passion

**Series “The Story”**

Books available in the lobby for \$5. There is a children’s version for \$15 available at KidsJAM check-in.

**Promotion Sunday**

On Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> the following will be promoted in both services:

- Two Year Olds go from Nursery to Beginner
  - Children who start Pre-K will go from Beginners to KidsJAM
  - Kids who start 6<sup>th</sup> Grade will go from KidsJAM to Velocity
- (We follow the same calendar as the public school system so cutoff birthday is September 1<sup>st</sup>.)

**Splash in the Boro**

The church will rent Splash on Sunday evening, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 6-8pm. Cost is \$10 per person or \$30 per family. **Cash at the Gate Only.** Bring money for the Snack Shack!