

Intro: Scripture Reading through Video. Visual Construction of Tabernacle.

Thesis: Tent-Camping is only Temporary & Mobile & Representative

I. Temporary

- A. **This Earth is Temporary.** Not our Home. We've got eternity ahead of us.
- B. **Our Bodies are Temporary.** Glorified bodies one day, like Jesus. Sin. Flesh.
- C. **Our Lives are Temporary.** Suffering. Pain. Sickness.
- D. **Jesus' Ministry on Earth was Temporary,** but He's coming back. est. Eternal Kingdom.

ILLUSTRATION: After Tent-Camping for a little while, you're ready to get home. Shower. Get away from bugs. Sleep on soft mattress. It's temporary.

II. Mobile

- A. **Church is Moving.** Missions. Nations. Spreading Kingdom.
- B. **Christians are a moving people.** Going people. Message. Make Disciples.
- C. **We're Moving.** We're **journeying** in this life to the Promised Land. Exiles. Wanderers.
- D. **Jesus is Moving.** Spirit is with us Moving.

ILLUSTRATION: Yurts. Mongolian Shepherds. Move 5-7x/year. Take everybody! It's alive style. Kids in crates hung over Yaks. Grandma pulled behind an Ox. Bouncing around.

III. Symbolic/Representative (It was all pointing forward to this).

- A. God IS in His Church. He is with them. Present in a special way. He's here now!
- B. God IS in us. **Scripture. HEBREWS 9:1-14**
- C. **God IS Jesus Christ who came.** God-Man. Immanuel. Jesus celebrated in **John 7**.

ILLUSTRATION: Feasts of Tabernacles. Booths. It's good to remember what this is all about. Ezra reads law in Nehemiah 8. All the people set up camp all around town. Rooftops, Public Square, Temple Yard, Gates, All around town. Ezra would read daily. Worship daily. Rejoicing. Celebrating. Since Joshua. (**Lev. 23:34-44; Ex. 34:22; Numbers 29:13-38; Nehemiah 8:13-18; Zech. 14:16-19**)

APPLICATION:

1. **GRACE.** Where'd they get all this stuff? Gold?! Plundering Egypt. He had every right to it. But also, He gave it to them for this purpose. Stewardship. He moved in the peoples hearts. God provides everything we need to obey. Financially, but also spiritually and practically. GRACE to Obey!
2. **WORSHIP.** Publicly gather with other believers. Little tabernacles of God. More of them, more of an experience of the Presence of God. Immanuel. Spirit meets with us here. Presence. **Expectation. Tabernacle was always at the center of the camp.** In the midst of the people. Worship & Sacrifice & Atonement was at the center of everything they did. Is it for us? Does everything else in our lives revolve around **prioritizing worshiping with God's people and hearing about the Sacrifice of Jesus weekly?** Sports, Chores, Work, Comfort, Sleeping in, Football, etc. **What is a "Regular Attender"?**
3. **ETERNITY.** Cube Holy of Holies. Eternal City. **2 COR.4:11-5:8.**

Serenity Prayer. Reinhold Niebuhr. Full Version.

*"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; Taking, as He did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that He will make all things right
If I surrender to His Will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with Him
Forever and ever in the next. Amen."*