**BCM Bible Study: November 11/12, 2020**

**Exodus 19: Chosen People**

Chosen People: **Read Exodus 19:1-6**

* What does God say to Israel in v.4? Why is this important?
	+ Do you find yourself trying to earn favor from God or other people?
	+ How has God’s grace towards you changed the way you live?
* There are three key phrases in this section: treasured possession, kingdom of priests, holy nation.
	+ What is the meaning of these descriptions of Israel?
* **Read 1 Peter 2:9-12.** Peter uses the exact phrasing of Exodus 19 to describe the church! Why is this significant?
	+ Why is it important to live a God-honoring life rather than simply speak about Jesus?
		- How have you seen Christian disobedience impact nonbelievers?
	+ What does it look like for you to live in a way that is holy/distinct from the unbelieving world in both big and small things?
	+ **Read Matthew 20:24-28.** How does the idea of serving the world impact how we answer the previous question?
* **Read John 15:5-8.** Being obedient to Christ does not happen overnight. What does it look like to grow in obedience to Christ by abiding/remaining in Christ?

God’s Presence: **Read Exodus 19:9-15**

* Israel is preparing to meet her God in a more complete way than she had previously. What instructions are given to prepare for this meeting?
	+ Modern readers find this preparation to be strange – we don’t do this kind of thing to approach God. Why not?
	+ **Read Hebrews 10:19-25, 12:18-24.** How does the blood of Christ make our situation different from that of the Israelites?
	+ How do these passages shape the way you understand what Jesus has done on the cross and why he has done it?

**Read Exodus 19:16-25**

* We have seen that we should approach God boldly, but we are also told to fear God. **Read 1 Peter 2:17.** What does it mean to fear God?
* There is a spectrum of how people relate to God. Some are afraid of Him, worrying about his judgment. Others see Jesus primarily as their friend and lack much reverence towards Him. Where do you tend to fall on this spectrum?
* What are the dangers of each extreme? What is a healthy middle ground?
* How do you see God’s goodness in his repeated reminders to the people?
* Like Israel, we are people who have short memories. What reminders do we have to remain obedient to God?

Challenge

We too are a kingdom of priests who carry with us the message of reconciliation to God through Christ. Make it a point to talk to someone about Jesus this week. Look for opportunities to talk about what God is doing or has done for you.