**BCM Bible Study: February 3/4, 2021**

**Exodus 23:20-24:18**

God Making a Way: **Read Exodus 23:20-26**

* What is the role of the angel in this passage?
  + These words about the angel come right after the law. Why is it significant that the focus turns from laws to God’s role in giving the land to Israel?
    - What are the areas of your life where it seems like God is not in control? What does faithfulness look like for you with respect to these things?
* While God is the primary agent in this passage, what is said about human responsibility?
  + This passage includes stern warnings: either obey and see the rewards or don’t and suffer the consequences. Do you think such things apply to us today?
  + What does it meant for you to be obedient to God?
    - What makes this hard? How can we succeed?

**Read Exodus 23:27-33**

* What makes it hard for you to follow Jesus while living in a world that doesn’t honor Him?
* First Peter gives advice to “exiles” like us: **Read 1 Peter 2:11-17, 4:12-14**.
  + How does Peter tell us to live?
  + How can you avoid conforming to the patterns of society?

Covenant Confirmation: **Read Exodus 24:1-8**

* What is happening in verses 4-8? What is the purpose of these actions?
* There are two offerings in this section: the burnt offering and fellowship offering. The first represents atonement for sin. The second represents fellowship with God. What is the relationship between these two things?
  + Part of the focus on entire section (23:20-24:18) is God’s presence with his people and our ability to fellowship with him. Do you take time to regularly be with God? What works/doesn’t work well for you?
  + What could make you hesitant to approach God boldly? Does the sense of being guilty or not good enough ever hold you back? This passage is a great comfort to us!

**Read Exodus 24:9-18**

* Given what we have just discussed, why is it significant that God shows part of himself to the leaders?
  + **Read John 1:14-18, 6:45-46, 14:8-9.** What do these passages say about Jesus?
    - In light of what we are seeing in Exodus, why is it significant that we see God in Jesus?
    - If Christ shows us God perfectly, what is God like? Describe him in a few words.
    - **Read 1 John 4:12**. What does this say about the significance of how we treat others? What does it look like to act this way?
* **Read Isaiah 25:6-8, Rev. 19:9.** 
  + How does this shed light on the significance of the Lord’s Supper?
  + How does it strike you that God wants an intimate relationship with you? Does this concept feel familiar? Foreign? Out of reach? Frustrating? Hopeful? Discuss why you feel the way you do.

Conclusion: If I could choose one takeaway for this week, it would be that God wants to know you and be with you. Spend some time being really honest with God this week. Tell him how you’re really feeling and create some quiet space to listen for his voice.