

A note from Kathy

We often hear men and women profess that their word is their bond. But that is not always the way things work out. "God is not a man, that he should lie." Numbers 23: 19a What God says, he will do. We have seen this over and over as we have studied Exodus. Trust and obey; there is no other way.

Observation

1. What instructions was Moses given in Exodus 34:1-3?
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2. What beautiful character quality does Moses display in verse 4?
3. How do you feel about God after reading verses 5-8?
4. Make a list of the qualities mentioned in verses 5-8 that describe God.
5. Which of these attributes are you the most familiar with?
6. Are there any parts of verse 6 and 7 that you find difficult to understand?
7. Notice what Moses is does in verse 8. In spite of the news that God would not be with them, and that Moses himself would be leading them. What do we see him doing?
8. Read verse 9 and circle the possessive pronouns. With whom does Moses identify?
9. God is re-establishing his covenant with Israel. What is God's part in this covenant? God gives Israel a list of things they are to do very carefully. Write out the list.

10. What three annual celebrations were the children of Israel instructed to keep?

See verses 18-23

11. How had God promised to protect their homes while they are gone to worship at the festivals? Define covet.

While on the mountain, Moses wrote the Ten Commandments on the two stones he chiseled and brought with him. Try to write them from memory.

(I suggest a pencil with an eraser)

The first four focuses on our relationship with _____, the fifth one focuses on our relationship with our _____, the last five focus on our relationship with _____.

12. This time, when Moses returned from the mountain, how was he visibly different?
13. What was the response of the people when they saw him?
14. The text does not specifically state the answer but what do you believe was the purpose of the veil that Moses, this humble servant of the LORD, wore?

Application

1. The world demands that everything be fair and equal. But is that God's plan?
Exodus 34:7 "...forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished." What is meant here by the guilty? What is another way to describe an unrepentant heart toward God?
2. No one is judged for another man's sins. We are all accountable for our own sin.
Unfortunately, sin does have lasting effects on those following us. The sin of selfishness, an ungrateful heart, greed, bitterness, a critical spirit, laziness, and anger are all easily caught; all have a payday later and greater. This wickedness is deeply rooted and often can take several generations to change. Do you see the potential for sins committed by previous generations to be passed down to you, your siblings or your descendants?
3. These generational sins are sometimes called "bully sins"; which means they reoccur and torment. Have you experienced any bully sins?

4. Read the verses below and write a brief explanation for each in the margin. Then combine the teaching into a paragraph or two that will help the next time you are faced with a decision to obey God's commands or give in to your own desire.

1 Cor. 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to humanity. God is faithful and He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation He will also provide a way of escape, so that you are able to bear it.

Romans 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Galatians 5:16-26 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.**17** For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.**18** But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.**19** Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,**20** idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions,**21** envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.**22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,**23** gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.**24** And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.**25** If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. **26** Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

5. Verse 12 tells them to avoid linking up with those already in the land; why?
When we link up with unbelievers, what can happen to us? Look up 2 Cor. 6:14.
6. The Hebrew word for jealous in verse 14 is "Quanna" and is used only in context with God. The first commandment states that we are to "have no other gods before him."
Exodus 34:14, "Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God."
John Gill's commentary on this verse, "His name and nature answer to one another; he admits of no rival or competitor in worship; he will not give his glory to another god, or one so called, nor his praise to graven images; and in this he is distinguished from all nominal and fictitious gods.

Is anything fighting for your attention over the Lord? Are there voices that are trying to command your attention over His voice?

When God declares he is jealous, he is saying there is nothing that competes with me. I am the Creator, Elohim. I will take My rightful place.

- 7. What is the greatest lesson you have seen so far as you studied Exodus and Moses?**
- 8. The Israelites were instructed to lead their families carefully and with purpose. God's commands would protect them from the influences of those that did not know God. What are some ways that you are purposefully leading and protecting your home?**
- 9. The Pharisee's came to Jesus one day with the question "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' We have been studying Exodus together for several months. It has been full of God's statutes and commands. How do these two commands manage to put all the commands of God together? Restate these two commands in your own words.**
- 10. Would you say that you truly love God with all your heart, soul and mind?
Do you love others in the same way you love yourself? Is that really even possible?
Who is this neighbor that we are to love in this way?**
- 11. When I find it difficult to love others as the Lord commanded, I focus on Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men." Is there a scripture you turn to for instruction and encouragement to love others in this way?**