

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

2/10/19

Text: Exodus 13:21-22, 40:34-38

Title: The Pillar of Cloud & Fire

Teacher: Tim Rice

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

In Tim's sermon, we looked at Exodus 13, where the pillar of cloud and fire led God's people out of Egypt and through the wilderness. As we saw, God himself was using the pillar to show his presence with the people. All he was doing showed His people what kind of leader He would be for them. That He would be Personal, Compassionate, and Faithful. Ultimately, He would lead them in a spirit of love. In our broken and sinful world we can see uncountable examples of bad leadership that could be defined by a failure to love; either through neglect, or through exploitation. We either love the person too little to lead them well, or we only truly love ourselves, so we use the person for our own benefit. The beauty of the gospel is that in the person of Jesus, God made himself known to his people as Personal (in becoming one of His people), Faithful (in not abandoning His people), and Compassionate (in sacrificing everything to care for them and ultimately save them). With His spirit living in and with us, we can be encouraged, strengthened and equipped to lead and love in the very same way.

Reflection Questions:

- **Who comes to mind when you think of your best or worst leaders? Why?**
1. *Tim said God's leadership is Present, Faithful and Compassionate.*
 - **Which of those characteristics of God's leadership do you struggle with the most? Why?**
 - **How has God taught you Presence, Faithfulness or Compassion?**
 2. *Tim said bad leadership can be summed up in a failure to love; either in neglect, or in exploitation.*
 - **When have you experienced either neglect or exploitation from a leader?**
 - **What's the hardest thing about following an unloving leader?**
 - **In what ways have you failed to love in presence, faithfulness or compassion?**
 3. *Tim said Jesus, being God, is the perfect picture of the Father's love and leadership. God doesn't simply save His people, He is with them, even now, by His spirit.*
 - **How do Jesus' words and actions draw you to follow Him as your leader?**
 - **Where do you need God to work Presence, Faithfulness or Compassion into you?**

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WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart from this sermon.)

1. ADORATION *(The Father)*

Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions

2. CONFESSION *(Me)*

Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited

3. THANKSGIVING *(Jesus)*

Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)

4. SUPPLICATION *(Holy Spirit)*

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

5. Prepare for Gospel Community *(My Neighbor)*

Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.

Prayer Items

- 1. Worship the LORD for His good leadership – by His personal presence, faithfully and compassionately.*
- 2. How have you lived doubting His leadership and refusing to lead others?*
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for His work to incarnate, redeem and abide.*
- 4. Who do you know that has not been led? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them and use you in doing so.*
- 5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you the fruit of love and faithfulness*