

# EXODUS

v o l u m e 3

## Remembering (Exodus 21-32)

**Bottom Line:** We must take the time to remember what God has taught us.

One of the most frequent commands that God gives His people is the command to “remember.” It’s easy for us to acknowledge God’s goodness in the moment, but it’s hard for us to remember His goodness to us later on. The same thing is true for what we learn from the Bible. We can hear a sermon, discuss a lesson, or read a passage of Scripture and walk away feeling motivated to put what we learn into action, but that motivation will quickly fade away if we don’t intentionally take the time to remind ourselves of what we’ve learned and take stock of how well we’ve been obedient to what God has shown us. This week, we’ll look back at a few key lessons we’ve learned in this third segment of our Exodus study as a way of reminding ourselves of where we’ve been, what God taught us, and hopefully be encouraged at how we’ve grown in our obedience to the Lord.

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The Bottom Line of the first session in this series was this: **“The quality of your worship is shown in your conduct toward others.”** We understood that the priority in our worship to God is not the rituals that we keep, but how we treat others. We discussed how our love toward other people authenticates our worship of God. (See Isaiah 1:11-15; Matthew 5:23-34)

**Let’s discuss this. What do you remember learning from this study? Do you have any new thoughts or ideas pertaining to this?**

**One of the questions posed was “What are some ways that we can love others (both inside and outside the church) that give authenticity to our church’s worship?” Do you remember any of the conclusions you came to? How are you doing in following through with what you decided? What is something that you could do *today* to make headway in this area?**

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The second lesson was titled “Conquest & Covenant” and the bottom line was **“What God has promised us has been secured by the blood of Jesus, therefore we can pursue His plan for us with unrelenting confidence.”** According to the author of Hebrews, Jesus’ blood shed for us on the cross has given us “full assurance” that God’s plan for us is a good one. Therefore, we can pursue God’s will for our lives, no matter how “hard” it may appear to be, without fear or hesitation. (See Hebrews 10:19-23)

**Let’s discuss this. What do you remember learning from this study? Do you have any new thoughts or ideas pertaining to this?**

**We asked ourselves the question, “What has God called you to pursue?” Do you remember your answer? How have you progressed in this pursuit? Or, if you weren’t sure what God wanted you to pursue, has God revealed that to you since then? What goals can you put in place to achieve that will stretch you in your faith and devotion to God?**

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In the third study, we learned that **“an increased awareness of the presence of God in our lives comes when we pursue purity and holiness.”** We discussed the staggering reality that those who have placed their faith in Christ have been so sanctified and purified by the sacrifice of Jesus that the Holy Spirit Himself has taken up residence within us. God’s presence is no longer restricted to a certain place to be enjoyed by a certain person at only a certain time. He is fully available to all of us at any time and any place through the Holy Spirit within us.

**Let’s discuss this. What do you remember learning from this study? Do you have any new thoughts or ideas pertaining to this?**

**An implication of the fact that the Spirit is within us is that when we feel “distant” from God, it may be because there is sin in our lives that is “quenching” the activity of the Spirit in us. To counteract this, we can pursue holiness through the spiritual disciplines like prayer, fasting, Bible reading, and service. Have you put any of these practices into place since we discussed this? How has your awareness of God’s presence in your life changed? If you haven’t, what can you do from here on out to help you pursue holiness and fight sin? How can reminding yourself that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit help you do this?**

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Next, we learned from Exodus 28-31 that **“we work hard to serve the Lord for His glory, not His approval.”** Since Christ has perfectly fulfilled the law for us on our behalf (Romans 8:4), then our acceptance and approval before God is already secure. Now, our service to the Lord in making disciples (Matthew 28:18-20) and pursuing holiness (Romans 12:1-2), are done as means of bringing the Lord glory, not trying to earn His approval.

**Let’s discuss this. What do you remember learning from this study? Do you have any new thoughts or ideas pertaining to this?**

**We listed four areas of service that we could engage in for the Lord: making disciples (or being discipled), pursuing holiness (or killing sin), serving the church, and loving others. Which of these did you decide to be more intentional about? How have you done so far? If you missed the lesson or haven’t taken steps of obedience in any of these areas, how will you start now?**

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Taking the time to remember what God has taught us and to gauge how well we’ve responded to His word can be either incredibly convicting or super encouraging. If you have found yourself feeling convicted, you should remember that Christ has won God’s approval and acceptance of you. Don’t feel as though you need to excel in every area or as if you need to play “catch up.” Pick one area that we’ve discussed today that you want to grow in and write it on the provided index card. Swap cards with someone and commit to praying for one another throughout the week. Let your church and your small group help you in this journey. We’re all in this together.