

Sermon Discussion Guide 07.30.23 Message | Tyler Nobis | Exodus 19:1-6

Key Scripture:

On the third new moon after the people of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that day they came into the wilderness of Sinai. They set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

Exodus 19:1-6

Message Highlights:

- We all have titles: Tyler Nobis's favorite title is father, which he received in adopting his son and daughter.
- Our title tells a story!
- The Israelites had titles as well: slaves, rejected, overlooked
- The Israelites gained a new title in Exodus 19: Treasured Possession
- God is screaming for us to accept that we are enough!
- Christianity is not performance or rule-based.
- A woman was caught in adultery and Jesus gives her a new identity.

CONVERSATION STARTER

What is a title that you carry? If you have had multiple, which one means the most to you? What's the funniest work title you've ever heard?



DISCUSS THE MESSAGE

How has the Spirit spoken to you through this section of God's word?

THINK DEEPER (Does your group understand the passage?)

What is the overall purpose of this text?

- What does this passage say about God's character?
- What does this passage tell us about how we are to approach a relationship with God?
- What does it mean to be a "treasured possession"? How does the overall passage speak to this?
- o READ: 1 Peter 2:9 and Revelation 1:6
 - How do these passages transform God's words to Moses and the people of Israel into a promise of a new covenant?
 - What are the implications for you and me?

THINK LIFE CHANGE (Does your group recognize the personal implications for them as individuals?)

In this text, beginning in verse four, God calls the people to remember what they saw with their own eyes (v. 4a) and to trust in God's providence (v. 4b). He then offers a conditional promise in verses five and six: "If you obey...then I shall see you as..."

Conditional clauses in scripture are nothing new between God and his people; both the Old Testament and New Testament have them. With that in mind:

- How does being a "treasured possession" in light of this passage challenge the status quo in your own life? How does it shape your understanding of a deeper trust, pursuit and obedience in Jesus?
- What does this say about God's providence over your life? Do you trust that God's ways should trump what we want, desire or feel is best for our lives?



THINK ENGAGE (Does your group recognize the communal implications for us as a Gospel-centered community?)

In verse five, God emphasizes the importance of following his voice and follows that up by referring to his people as a 'kingdom of priests.' This is the second time in two verses that he emphasizes the importance and value of the collective people and their following his voice.

- o If we walk in the identity of one who is a "treasured possession," how does this passage speak to the way we should approach engaging in Christian community?
- O How does it speak to the church's need for dependence upon the Lord?

THINK EXPAND (Does your group recognize the missional implications for those we want to reach for Christ?)

According to this passage, how are we to approach being missional in everyday life?

- o How does this look in light of obedience?
- O How does this look in light of a deeper trust?
- O How does this look in light of sacrifice?

THINK KINGDOM (Does your group understand the overarching Kingdom, that the work we do is bigger than ourselves?)

For the second week in a row, we have emphasized how the Kingdom triumphs over the individual. Today, we focus on our identity as treasured possessions. This concept might be foreign to many of us in the Western world, but the scriptures do not shy away from revealing who we are in God's eyes.

- Thinking Kingdom first, how does being a treasured possession encourage us to pursue God's mission in our own lives?
- How does it challenge us to think beyond our day-to-day living and selfish pursuits?