

Life Group Notes

Sunday 27th January 2019

Speaker: Tex Chettiar

Title: Sinai – Mountain of Encounter

Passage: Exodus 19

This Sunday we continued our sermon series “On This Mountain – God. Bible. Mountains.” We looked at Mount Sinai, the mountain of encounter. We see that when people encounter God, they do not do so just for their own benefit, but so that they can be people who take the Kingdom of God with them wherever they go.

Throughout the series we want to look back, to see where we’ve come from and what has shaped us up to this point. Look up, to see what fresh revelation we have from God. And to look forward to see how all that we have learnt points to Jesus and helps us going forward.

We started by looking at Exodus 19:5-6, here we see that God reminds Israel:

- what He has done – He has saved them from Egypt.
- What He requires of them – Obedience, which is a key theme in our series.
- What the Lord promises – Israel will be a treasure possession, a kingdom of priest and a Holy nation.

Look Back:

Another key theme in our sermon series is that God wants to dwell with His people. We see it in the start at Eden, where God creates Adam & Eve, he dwells with them, and in turn they are called to be a royal priesthood, people who care for the garden. This is again emphasised here at Sinai.

We see in v5 that God saves Israel and before God encounters them (v16-20), they are called to be a kingdom of priests, people whose lives are lives of service to God and those around them. They are also to be a holy nation – people who are different.

Look Up (read Ex.19:16-20):

When we read these 5 verses we can learn the following things:

1. God is big, we are small (v16)
2. God desires to meet with us (v17)
3. When we encounter God, it is more than we could ever imagine (v18)
4. God is a speaking God, he is not silent. (v19)
5. Israel needs Moses as a Mediator – This is a wonderful foreshadowing of Jesus. (v20)

Look Forward:

When we see the divide of the people at the bottom of the mountain and God at the top. We see that we are like Israel. We cannot clean ourselves enough or force our way into God’s presence on our own merit. This is why we need Jesus. When we look at the beauty of what Jesus has done for us on the cross, we see that once we were barred off and a veil separated us from God’s presence, but because Jesus has triumphed over sin and death, we are now able to fully encounter God in our everyday lives and we can boldly enter the throne room of God.

Without Jesus we cannot encounter God, but when we do encounter him it’s not for ourselves but so that we can live our lives in service to Him, His people and those who don’t know Jesus yet.

Questions for application:

1. Was there anything new that helped you see God in a new light this week?
2. What are some of the simple ways in which you can serve your work colleagues, friends and family?
3. How are you going to make room in your everyday to encounter God this week?