**“Prepare to Meet the LORD!”**

**(Exodus 19)**

**Having raised up Moses, delivered Israel from Egypt, and led them on a two-month journey to Mt. Sinai, it was now time for God to meet with His people. This was to be an unforgettable experience in which Israel began to understand its new relationship with the LORD. We can learn from this awesome encounter as we observe the…**

 **I. Invitation to Meet With the LORD (1-9)**

* **Basis of Invitation (1-4)**

 (Exodus 3:12; 12:41; Deuteronomy 32:10-11)

* **Blessings of Invitation (5-6)**

 (Deuteronomy 5:27; 7:6; 14:2; 1 Peter 2:9)

 **II. Preparation to Meet With the LORD (10-15)**

* **Sanctify the People (10-11, 14-15)**

 (Exodus 3:2, 5; Psalm 51:1-2; Amos 4:12; I John 1:8-9)

* **Set Boundaries for the People (12-13)**

 (Numbers 3:10; 2 Samuel 6:6-7; 1 Corinthians 7:3-5)

**III. Manifestation of Meeting With the LORD (16-25)**

* **Sensations of the Manifestation (16-19)**

 (Isaiah 6:3-4; Matthew 27; 51-54; Revelation 11:19)

* **Seriousness of the Manifestation**

 (Leviticus 10:1-2; Hebrews 12:28-29)

**“Preparing to Meet the LORD!”**

**(Exodus 19)**

 **Small Group Discussion Guide**

**1. Read Exodus 19:1-9**

 **\* How does God describe what He did for Israel? Why does He**

 **remind them?**

 **\* Why does God call Israel His peculiar treasure above all people?**

 **How does it affect you to know that you also are His special**

 **treasure?**

 **\* The people said, *“All that the LORD has spoken we will do!”* Is it**

 **good for us to make such a quick commitment to God? Explain.**

**2. Read Exodus 19:10-15**

 **\* How does God want the people to prepare themselves to meet with**

 **Him? How should we prepare?**

 **\* Why was there such a severe punishment for someone who**

 **touched the mountain? What boundaries do we have in our**

 **relationship with God?**

**3. Read Exodus 19:16-25**

 **\* What do the people see, hear and feel in their encounter with God**

 **at Mt. Sinai? Imagine that you were there at the foot of Mt. Sinai.**

 **How would such an incredible experience affect you?**

 **\* How would you complete the following statement:**

 ***BECAUSE MY GOD IS HOLY, I WILL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

**Digging Deeper**

**1. Jot down something that each of the following verses tells us about**

 **the need to prepare ourselves before we meet with God. Psalm**

 **66:18; 139:23-24; Proverbs 28:13; James 4:8; 1 John 1:8-9.**

 **Consider also Psalm 51:1-4 and 100:4.**

**2. Compare the earthquake and display of God’s presence in Exodus 19**

 **with Zechariah 14:4; Matthew 27:51-54; and Revelation 11:19;**

 **16:18.**

**3. For Next Week – Prepare for communion by remembering that it was**

 **originally a Passover meal. Read about the first Passover meal in**

 **Exodus 12:1-28 and the last Passover meal in Luke 22:14**