

Sermon: A Home for Our Majestic and Merciful God.
Series: *Exodus: From Slavery to Glory.*

Scripture: Exodus 25:1-22.
Date: April 23, 2023

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) God tells Moses to build him a tabernacle, a tent, a home. What do you love about your home?
- b) Can you feel your longing for a heavenly home? When? How?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) Look at 25:8 again. What does this verse tell us about God, his character and his heart? How can you see this desire of God playing out in the church today?
- b) Think about the Ark of the Covenant. What attributes of the Ark point to the majesty and mercy of God? Look at 25:21. Why is it significant that the Mercy Seat sits above the law (testimony)?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) Read John 1:14. Jesus is described as the living tabernacle of God. He is where God and man dwell together. Compare this to John 15:1-11 and John's use of the word "abide" or "dwell." What do you think it means to abide in Jesus as Jesus abides in us? What might this look like in our daily lives?
- b) Can you explain how the ark (25:10-22), the table of bread (25:23-30), and the lampstand (25:31-40) each picture Jesus, his majesty and his mercy?

APPLICATION

- a) Read Colossians 1:27. Christ lives in us as his tabernacle. What is something specific that might change as you trust this identity more and more – Christ lives in me. I am the tabernacle of God.
- b) Do you see the church overemphasizing either God's holiness or God's love? How can we as a church uphold both the majesty and mercy of God without going to either extreme?

FIGHTER VERSES: Hebrews 9:27-28.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his desire to dwell among his people.
- Confess ways that you have tried to live outside of the love of God this week.
- Thank Jesus for being your home, your provision and your security.
- Ask God to help you live in light of Christ's indwelling life in you.