



### ***Expecting to Encounter Tog***

**Exodus: The Way In | Part II of our Journey through Exodus**

**Exodus 19 | May 3rd - May 9th, 2015**

**Warm Up:** “*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! LORD GOD ALMIGHTY!*” Is the opening line and title of this classic hymn that speaks of the power, majesty, glory and mystery of our God. Open His Word and read the following verses: **Psalm 99:1-5, Isaiah 6:1-5, Revelation 4:2-11.** With these words sealed in your heart, spend a few silent moments in prayer rejoicing and praising our holy and sovereign Lord.

- ❖ This past Sunday we heard two key words - *Expectation & Preparation*. We were challenged to exam our encounters with God with these two words in mind and asked to answer several questions.
  - We prepare for everything else in our lives, but are we preparing for encounters with God? How prepared are we to meet with God? Do we take it as seriously as a meeting with our boss, a major client, planning a wedding, a child's birthday party or preparing the Thanksgiving meal? **If not- Why?**
  - In what ways has our "come as you are" culture dulled our reverent respect for our Holy God?
- ❖ Expectation simply means, “*a strong belief that something will happen.*” Read **Hebrews 11:6** and **4:16**
  - Do I expect to encounter God on Sunday mornings or at other times during the week? Or, am I just assuming God is going to hear, work, and show up in my life? Is their a balance to these? Discuss.
- ❖ In what ways are you personally challenged to improve in your *preparation* and *expectation* to encounter the Lord in your life? As a group, discuss the kinds of things you might try out in order to grow in these areas. Get specific!
- ❖ Read the following verses: **Exodus 19:5-6, Deuteronomy 7:6, Matthew 5:13-14, and 1 Peter 2:9-10.** God, in His infinite love and grace, has prepared before the foundations of the world, our place in His Kingdom and His expectation for our roles.
  - Much of the Christian life is tuning into the voice of God in order to obey and walk in what He has prepared for us (See **Ephesians 2:10**). How does being “chosen” in Christ speak of the Father’s love for you? How ought this to motivate you?

**Wrap Up:** Read **Exodus 19:4.** God’s care is equated with that of an eagle that lifts us out of our troubles. Spend some time sharing how God has cared for you this past week. Close your time in prayer *Prizing, Glorifying* and *Enjoying* God together.