



EXODUS

PREPARING THE TABERNACLE

LENT

EXODUS READINGS

SERMONS

KEY MOMENTS

Week 1

Ch 1-4

#1 - Cries of the Oppressed
#2 - Responding to the Call

Slavery in Egypt
Moses at burning bush

Week 2

Ch 5-10

#3 - God's 10 acts of Salvation

10 plagues confront Pharaoh

Week 3

Ch 11-16

#4 - From Slavery to Freedom

Passover
The Exodus
Crossing the red sea

Week 4

Ch 17-22

#5 - The 10 Commandments

Grumbling in desert
Meeting God at Mt Sinai
10 commandments

Week 5

Ch 23-28

#6 - Preparing the Tabernacle

Instructions to build the Tabernacle
Moses on Mt Sinai

Week 6

Ch 29-34

The Golden Calf
Rebellion and covenant renewal
Commandments 2.0

Week 7

Ch 25-40

Building the Tabernacle
God's glory fills the Tabernacle

Chapter 23

God continues to provide laws for the Israelites, emphasising justice, compassion, and the importance of worship (Sabbath observance/3 annual feasts) and divine guidance.

Chapter 24

Describes the covenant between God and the Israelites.

Chapter 25

God gives instructions for the construction of the Tabernacle and its furnishings.

- **The Tabernacle:** God commands the Israelites to build a sanctuary for Him, where He will dwell among them. The materials for the Tabernacle are to be collected from the people.
- **Furnishings:** Detailed instructions are given for the Ark of the Covenant, the table for the bread of the Presence, and the lampstand.

Chapter 26

Continues with the specifications for the Tabernacle.

Chapter 27

God gives instructions for the altar and the courtyard of the Tabernacle.

Chapter 28

Focuses on the priesthood and the garments for the priests.

An Exit is but an Entrance

- **The Exodus (Exit):** The transition from slavery and bondage to freedom.
- **The Wilderness:** This period served as preparation for eventual occupation, as outlined in Exodus 23:20-26. It required trust, obedience, love, and worship toward God. However, the people chose to sustain themselves (“maintaining”) for forty years, during which their clothes and shoes did not wear out, rather than pursue transformative change.

An Exit is but an Entrance

- **The Promised Land (Entrance):** Entry into a fundamentally new way of life marked by divine covenantal assurance and a land of promise. It was a land of abundance, security, and protection, where the Israelites could live out their covenantal responsibilities and enjoy the blessings of God.

God gave incredible
instructions to build the
Tabernacle, but why?

“Have the people of Israel build me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them. You must build this Tabernacle and its furnishings exactly according to the pattern I will show you.

Exodus 25: 8-9 (NLT)

¹ Then the LORD said to Moses,
“Go back to Pharaoh and
announce to him, ‘This is what
the LORD says: Let my people
go, so they can worship me.

Approaching God involves several key attributes that believers should strive to embody:

- **Reverence:** A profound respect and awe for God's majesty and holiness.
- **Humility:** Recognising human limitations and surrendering to divine will.
- **Purity:** Desiring moral and spiritual cleanliness when approaching God.
- **Faith:** A lifestyle of dedication and service reflecting God's holiness in every aspect of life.
- **Grace:** Seeking God's grace and mercy, as He invites us to approach Him with open hearts and minds.

Jesus' wilderness preparation for His ministry (purpose, Promised Land)

Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River. He was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where he was tempted by the devil for forty days. Jesus ate nothing all that time and became very hungry....

When the devil had finished tempting Jesus, he left him until the next opportunity came. Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Reports about him spread quickly throughout the whole region.

Luke 4: 1-2, 13-14

In contrast to my own approach—perhaps even ours—Jesus chose to withdraw, fast, and pray in preparation for the challenges ahead, rather than waiting until difficulties arose before turning to spiritual practices.

[Communion] Then he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. Then he said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. For I will not drink wine again until the Kingdom of God has come." He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took another cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you."

1. Read Luke 4:1-14. What does this passage reveal about Jesus' spiritual practices, and why might these be important for your own spiritual growth and journey?
2. Compare the wilderness experiences of the Israelites and Jesus. Which experience do you personally relate to most, and what are your reasons?
3. Discuss your Lent practices and describe how they are preparing you for future goals or aspirations (your Land of Promise). Consider whether introducing a new ritual could assist in observing the Sabbath day of rest (worship) more effectively or enhance the overall experience

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS