



SMALL GROUP LESSON

AUGUST 27, 2017

ABSOLUTE DEVOTION

EXODUS 19:1-8

All of us have probably seen a real estate advertisement in front of a home with a placard that reads "Under Contract." In other words, someone has declared their intent to purchase this home, but the deal has not yet been finalized. That's what took place when the people of Israel finally arrived at the Mountain of God. They entered into an initial agreement with the Lord that would be finalized a few days later. So let's take a look at this agreement and see if there is anything within it that might apply to our lives as God's people in this day and time.

1. God said that He had brought the people of Israel out of Egypt on eagles' wings. What do you think that means?
2. Verses 5 and 6 describe an "if then" contractual agreement. In other words, if I do something for you, then you are obligated to do something for me. What did God ask the Israelites to do with regards to their relationship with Him?
3. What did God say that he would be willing to do for the Israelites? What did it mean when He said that they would become a treasured possession, a kingdom of priests and a holy nation? How are we as God's people a part of this promise according to Romans 11:11-24 and 1 Peter 2: 9?
4. How did the people of Israel respond to this opportunity to enter into an official relationship with God?
5. How can we express our absolute devotion to the Lord, and according to John 14:21 what will happen when we do?

DIGGING DEEPER

How is our faith in God and our obedience to Him related to one another? If we are not really interested in obeying the Lord what does that say about our faith in Him? And what does obedience to God really mean? Is it just being careful to observe a lot of rules and regulations? Or is there a deeper meaning, especially when we think of obedience as an expression of our absolute devotion?