



SMALL GROUP LESSON

SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

CONSECRATED CLEANSING

EXODUS 19:10-14

Has there ever been a time in your life when you had to get ready for a special occasion such as a big birthday party or a fancy wedding celebration? It probably took a lot of planning and a considerable amount of time and effort. How about a meeting with someone very special, like the Lord God Almighty? That's what the Israelites were facing when Moses came down from the Mountain of God with special instructions as to what they needed to do in order to be prepared for a meeting with the Lord.

1. How long did the people of Israel have to prepare themselves for their meeting with the Lord?
2. God told Moses to consecrate the people. He also told Moses to tell them to wash their clothing. Why do you think the Lord wanted the Israelites to do these two things in preparation for their meeting with Him?
3. What do these two words, consecration and cleansing, have to do with our relationship with the Lord, especially with regards to those times when we gather together for worship?
4. What must we do in order to be cleansed from our sins? Read Psalm 51 and 1 John 1:9?

Digging Deeper:

In James 5:13-18, the writer of this New Testament book speaks about the power of prayer. He also speaks about what can hinder the power of prayer. Read this passage of Scripture very carefully and then ask yourself these questions. What can hinder the power of prayer in our lives and in the life of our church? And what do you think we ought to do about it? Every great revival, every outpouring of God's Spirit down through the centuries, has required what James is talking about and what Peter said to the people in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38).