



SMALL GROUP LESSON
SEPTEMBER 10, 201

THUNDEROUS DIALOGUE
EXODUS 19:16-19 AND 20:18-20

These two passages of Scripture are unique. They describe an event which took place nearly 3,500 years ago. The Lord descended upon a mountain in the Middle East where the people Israel had assembled to meet Him. As you read these passages of Scripture imagine what it must have been like to have this kind of an encounter with the Lord God Almighty.

1. How did God announce His arrival on the morning of the third day? Describe the events which took place as the Lord stepped out of heaven and descended upon Mount Sinai. Do you think that the Lord occasionally uses natural phenomenon to reveal His presence and power? Can you think of any passages of Scripture that support this possibility?
2. The Bible says that Moses spoke to the Lord and that the voice of God answered him. What do you think God's voice sounded like? Was it thunderous or did He speak in a voice that everyone could understand? We will never know for sure, but there are Biblical clues as to how God spoke to Moses and the Israelites. They are found in two New Testament passages of Scripture, John 12:28-29 and Acts 22:6-10.
3. How did the Israelites react to this encounter with the Lord, and why do you think God displayed His power and majesty in such an awesome manner? Can you think of some other Biblical accounts in which people had a similar reaction when they were confronted by God or one of His angelic servants?
4. There are many passages of Scripture such as Psalm 111:10 and Proverbs 3:9 which state that we should fear the Lord. What do you think this means? How should this understanding of our relationship with the Lord affect the way we worship and serve Him?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Did you know that many people in the Bible had life changing encounters with the Lord when they were outdoors? See how many you can name in both the Old and New Testaments.