



## **FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH**

Pastors: *Dennis & Diane Gordon*

### **THROUGH THE WILDERNESS #7**

#### **GOD'S WORD OUR COMPASS**

*Exodus 21-24*



#### **GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME**

**FOR A COMPASS, GOD GIVES ME HIS LAWS,  
TO MAKE MY PATH STRAIGHT SO I WON'T GET LOST**

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK:** *Repeat 2x with Congregation*

**Psalm 119:103-105** *“How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! <sup>104</sup>Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. <sup>105</sup>Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”*

**INTRODUCTION:** Last week we learned that when we look at His commandments, God reveals to us His character and how to love Him, and how to love each other the way He loves us. Jesus is our Creator God made visible in flesh, who commands that we worship only Him. God's commandments also teach us how to love one another like He loves us. God wants us to have a good relationship with Him and have a good relationship with each other. He wants each of us to love Him and know Him in a very special way and always be safe because we listen to His voice and obey Him.

#### **ORDER OF SERVICE:**

- |                                    |   |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Light Candles & Pray            | 4. Dismiss Kids to Noah's Ark with 'Animals Go Marching Song' |                                 |
| 2. Children's Songs/Story pg 9 & 2 | 5. Adult Fellowship Break                                     | 7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer  |
| 3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring     | 6. Worship Song Set   | 8. Blessing Songs & Benediction |

**OBJECTS TO BRING:** *Compass, Map of Local Area, Box Games & Gumballs*

## 2. CHILDREN'S STORY: Lost At the Park

Max and Vickie were on their way to an all church picnic at the park. Max was just back from Boy Scout camp, so he still had his camping belt on, and Vickie said, "Max, take off that camping belt because it looks silly to wear it for a picnic; the girls will make fun of me!" Max said, "Vickie, I'm not ashamed of my scout belt, besides, what if somebody needs something?" "Nobody will need it Max, take it off!" Vickie protested. With that Max got out of the car and walked down the hill to the picnic by himself. Vickie jumped out and followed him, "Max, I'm sorry, I'm proud of you!" Max said it was Ok. The girls did laugh at Max, but they stopped because Vickie stood up for him, convincing them of how important it is for Boy Scouts to be prepared, like Max.



After lunch, the kids went for a hike. They had a great time hiking down into the canyon, but before they knew it, the sun started going down and they decided they'd better go back but when they hiked back up and looked they were lost! Where was the picnic? Vicki's friends began to panic. One of the older boys said, "If only we had a compass we could find our way back." Vickie looked over at Max, as he reached around to the back of his belt to unhook his compass, held it up and said, "I have one right here!" Jeff slapped Max on the back, "Way to go kid, it's a good thing one of us takes this scouting stuff seriously!" Everybody cheered as Jeff, with the help of Max's compass guided them se back to the picnic. The pastor was waiting with all their parents, and Max was the hero!

As they sat down to eat, Pastor Smith stood to give them a message, "Max brought that compass with him even when he was laughed at, because he knew it was important. Because Max was not afraid, everyone is safe." and he held up his Bible, "God's word is like that compass. Sometimes it's hard to carry it because there's always going to be someone to laugh at your values and your faith. But if you are always prepared with the word of God, you'll be safe, and bring many others out of danger and safely to Heaven!"

### **3. GOD WANTED HIS PEOPLE TO KEEP THEIR WORSHIP PURE AND SIMPLE.**

*Exodus 20:22-25 “And the LORD said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. <sup>23</sup> Ye shall not make with me gods of silver, neither shall ye make unto you gods of gold. <sup>24</sup> An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee. <sup>25</sup> And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.”*

When Moses came down from the mountain, He told the Israelite people what God said to tell them: They had seen that God spoke to them from Heaven, so they should not make any false gods of silver or gold, and He told them how He was to be worshiped. They were to make an altar of stones and earth for making their sacrifices to God.



They must not make it fancy by adding anything in any way, but must only use plain untooled stones and earth. The plain altar was to remind them that only God is creator; that it is He who created all things and only He is God.



God wants us to His word pure and keep our worship of Him simple like the simple altar, so we will remember it is He who made us. The plain unchanged altar reminds us that God said we are not to add to or change one word of the Bible because His word is holy.

Upon the stone altar, the Israelites were to place a spotless lamb, one who was perfect in every way. The lamb was a substitute for the Lamb of God who would one day come from Heaven. Until then, the lamb was sacrificed to pay the penalty of death for their sins. A terrible price of death must be paid for sin.

#### 4. GOD STILL WANTS HIS PEOPLE TO KEEP THEIR WORSHIP PURE AND SIMPLE.



Elaborate worship of God sets us up to see things through the eyes of the world to see things and value things according to the values of the world and not according to the simplicity that is found in Christ. Today's crowds of church people are attracted to the church with the biggest most professional show, not able to feel God's presence without the pounding mesmerizing music and spectacular showing of signs and wonders. God wants us to find Him in the simplicity of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with simple faith for healing not by seductive performers on a stage, but by simple faith in Him.

*Mark 13:22 "for false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect."*

Elaborate worship seduces our sense of reality, seducing our hearts from the simplicity of Christ to follow charismatic leaders, needing more and more until we become open to receiving false spirits.

*2 Corinthians 11:2-3 "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. <sup>3</sup> But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."*

God loves you so much and does not want your heart to be seduced by worship that is focused on the grandeur of man, but only on Him.

## **5. GOD TOLD MOSES TO WRITE IN A BOOK GOD'S RULES TO GUIDE HIS PEOPLE IN EVERY SITUATION.**



While Moses was in the mountain for 40 days, God told him to write directions for the people on a scroll called the **Book of the Covenant**, this book was also called **The Book of Moses**. We can find God's specific directions for living in the books of Exodus and Leviticus in our Bibles.

*Exodus 21:1-23:13 & 19-33 Contains directions for daily living.*

*Exodus 23:14-18 Contains directions for God's yearly feast days that are shadows of events in His plan of salvation.*

While we are no longer held to the long set of rules or face penalty of death, we are commanded to keep God's feasts, called God's Sabbaths, to keep us on track following God's way, and also **as a sign that as adopted into God's family called Israel, we are the children of the Living Creator God of Heaven!**

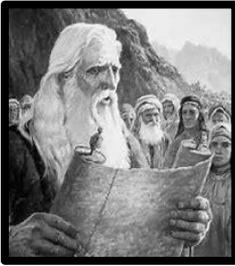
*Exodus 31:13 "Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you."*

The New Covenant in the blood of Jesus, confirms the Old Covenant (in the blood of bulls and goats), saying we are not to judge one another in **HOW** we keep His Sabbaths, because God's Sabbaths are shadows of salvation yet to be fulfilled, who's substance is Christ.

*Colossians 2:16-17 "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: <sup>17</sup> which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ."*

In the Book of the Covenant Moses wrote down detailed instructions from God for how the people were to live their everyday lives according to what God knew would be best for them. Some of the instructions sound strange to us, and foreign to our way of life now, but God's way to negotiate common practices until Jesus came.

## 6. MOSES RECEIVES THE 10 COMMANDMENTS ON STONE TABLETS BUT WROTE THE LAW IN A BOOK.



*Hebrews 9:19-20 “For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, <sup>20</sup> saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.”*

When Moses came down from the mountain and read the book in front of all the people, they promised to do all that God had told them in the 10 Commandments written by God on the stone tablets, and in the Book of the Law God told Moses to write. Moses made a sacrifice to God to seal the covenant, they had made.

*Exodus24:3-8 “And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do. <sup>4</sup> And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>5</sup> And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD. <sup>6</sup> And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. <sup>7</sup> And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient. <sup>8</sup> And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.”*



God gave Moses the 10 Commandments on tablets of stone, and He instructed Moses to write the Book that was called the schoolmaster that brought them to Christ. Moses sprinkled the blood of the promise on the book and the people, to show that God was making that promise to them and was coming to become visible as Messiah, and give the blood of His only begotten Son to save them.

## **7. GOD APPEARED TO MOSES IN THE FORM OF AN ANGEL, AND GAVE DIRECTIONS FOR the TABERNACLE**

Moses wrote in the Book of the Law, detailed directions on how to build the beautiful Tabernacle where people could go to be cleansed from their sins, and where God could come to meet with Moses and live among them until He became flesh in our Lord Jesus Christ.

*1 Timothy 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”*

God became visible as the Messiah, Jesus Christ, to lay down His human life to pay the penalty of death once for all, making a new covenant **in His own blood**.

*Acts 2:28 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the **church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood**.”*

Our salvation is now by faith in the blood of God shed for us through Jesus Christ, no longer dependent on the blood of bulls and goats.

*Hebrews 10:3-5 “But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. <sup>4</sup> For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. <sup>5</sup> Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldst not, but a body hast thou prepared me.”*



God met with Moses in the Tabernacle, and He also promised to protect the Israelites by sending a messenger from Heaven, the angel of God, to guide them through the wilderness and protect them. The Bible tells us the One who guided them through the wilderness was Jesus! It was the Lord Jesus, the Word of God before He came to earth to be a man, who appeared to the Israelites in the form of an angel.

## **8. THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE MOUNTAIN AND THE GLORY OF GOD AT THE COMING OF THE LORD.**

**Exodus 24:9-11** “Then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel: <sup>10</sup> and **they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.**

<sup>11</sup> And upon the nobles of the children of Israel he laid not his hand: also they saw God, and did eat and drink.”



We know from scripture that no man including God in all His glory, they saw the glory of God, but the Bible tells us that they saw no form, because God is invisible Spirit, yet Moses and Aaron, and the elders of Israel saw the glory of the God of Israel with sapphire shining like Heaven under His feet!

**Exodus 33:20** “And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.”

**John 1:18** “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.”

**John 6:46** “Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.”

**1 John 3:2** “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”

When Jesus returns, He is coming **IN** the same glory of Godhead that Moses saw in the mountain!

**Luke 9:26** “For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, **when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father’s, and of the holy angels.**”



## **9. GOD'S WORD IS OUR COMPASS TO GUIDE US HOME**

**OBJECT VISUAL:** *Compass and a Map of your area.*

While Moses was up on the mountain, God wrote the Ten Commandments with His own finger on two tablets of stone. God's commandments were given to us to guide us because He loves us and doesn't want us to lose our way. The book of the law is full of very detailed instructions with so many directions that it is difficult to remember all those 613 laws. The Book of the Law contains detailed instructions on how to solve the problems of daily health and life. In Old Testament times their hearts were hard, and they needed all those laws to teach them until Jesus came. Now by faith, the simple law of love contained in the 10 Commandments is written in our hearts, because Jesus, God Himself lives there!



The Ten Commandments are like this compass. A compass does not have all the detailed directions but has focus points to follow so we can get us to where we need to go. See how simple a compass is? God's 10 Commandments are like that.

I'm going to turn myself until I am facing the same direction as the needle on this compass. Does anyone know which direction the needle of a compass points? Yes it always points north because there is a magnetic pull from the North Pole that always pulls the needle north.

So if I turn myself to face north, and turn the map (*turn map around to face north*) so the top is facing north, I can see exactly where I am, set my course by the compass, and I can find my way back home.

That is what happens when we look into God's word in the Holy Bible and turn ourselves to line up with God's way, then we know exactly where we are so we can find our way back home!

That is what God meant when He said that to love God and to love each other sums up all the law and the prophets, because His 10 Commandment law tells us simply how to love God and each other.

## **10. GOD GIVES US NEW AND BETTER PROMISES THROUGH THE SHEDDING OF HIS OWN BLOOD THROUGH HIS SON, JESUS.**

***Hebrews 8:10** “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people.”*



Jesus was and is God with us. Before laying down His human life on the cross, Jesus said that His body and His blood which He shed for us, began the New Covenant of salvation by faith in Him.

***Luke 22:20** “Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.”*

It was the commandments contained in the daily ordinances of blood sacrifices that were nailed to the cross because the blood of bulls and goats was only temporary until God came in Christ to shed His own blood for us, once for all.

Today, we must only have faith in Jesus, without the threat of death if we do not follow every complicated rule to the letter and make a blood sacrifice daily to pay the penalty of death for our sins. Jesus said those who believe will be baptized following His steps of death, burial, and resurrection to a new life in Him. That is why Jesus said:

***Mark 16:15-16** “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. <sup>16</sup> **He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;** but he that believeth not shall be damned.”*

***Hebrews 13:20-21** “Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, **through the blood of the everlasting covenant,** <sup>21</sup> make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”*

## 11. GOD'S PURPOSE & PLAN FOR ME

1. God gives us His laws to shine His light on our path to make our path straight and see clearly so we will not get lost!
2. If we always carry God's word, we will find our way to live with Jesus forever in Heaven and bring many others with us!
3. The plain untooled altar reminds us that God said we are not to add to or change one word of the Bible because His word is holy.
4. God does not want your heart to be seduced by elaborate worship that is focused on the grandeur of man, but only on Him.
5. God gave hard hearted people of the Old Testament rules to guide them through common problems until Jesus came.
6. The Old Covenant required obedience to works of the law in the blood of bulls and goats, while the New Covenant is by faith in the blood of Jesus, with expectation that we obey the Gospel and show our love by doing the works He prepared for us to do.
7. God wants me to keep my worship simple so I won't be giving glory to the works and talents of men or to myself.
8. God gives us rules to be a compass that guides us safely home.
9. The commandments contained in ordinances were done away with but God writes the Ten Commandments in our hearts to show us how to love Him and how to love one another.
10. Jesus is coming in the same glory of the Godhead, the same God whom Moses saw in the mountain of God.



*Dear Lord Jesus, I love you and believe that you died on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me and fill me with Your Spirit in my heart, and immerse me in Your presence so I can live my life for you, and be ready to rise up to meet you when you come. Thank you for saving me and making me your child, **in Jesus name, Amen.***

## 12. GOSPEL CRAFT: GOD'S WAY GAME!

*We have a fun game today that shows how following God's way of faith, will lead you safely home to live forever in heaven with Him! But be careful that you do not follow the way of sin and get your life stuck in a dead end!*

### Directions for Bible Compass Game:

1. Enlarge game board to fit the size of your box lid, and copy onto card stock.
2. Cut out and glue to inside of box lid.
3. Cut plastic straws to size and glue to the game as shown.
4. Place candy gumball on heart to start at top of game board.
5. Tilt box lid to go God's way to reach home and you win the prize of eating the gumball!

### GOD'S WAY GAME!

For A Compass, God Gives Me His Laws, To Make My Path Straight So I Won't Get Lost

**SIN IS THE WRONG WAY! DEAD END!**



↓

GOD'S WAY IS KINDNESS →      WISE CHOICES →

SIN WAY MEANNESS

WRONG WAY CULT

↖ GOD'S WAY OBEDIENCE ←      FAITHFULNESS ←

PRAYER

↓

TRUTH

↓

GOODNESS

↓

PEACE

↓

KINDNESS

↓

THANKFUL HEART →      HAPPINESS ↑

DRUGS & ALCOHOL

SIN WAY BAD WORDS

↗ GOD'S WAY HELPING OTHERS →      PRAYER ↘

QUIET HEART      SIN GANGS DEAD END      DISRESPECT

KIND      TRUTH

↖ MERCY ←      LOVING KINDNESS      SIN DRUGS

FALSE TEACHING      HELPING      IMMORALITY

PRAY

FAITHFULNESS →

FIGHTING

LOVE

↓

JOY

↓

HOME! ← LOVING OBEDIENCE LEADS ME HOME TO JESUS ←

