

**BRIARCLIFF CHURCH**  
**Small Group Study Guide: Exodus**  
Week of November 12 (Week 10)  
Exodus 25–27



### Sermon Overview

Exodus 25–27 is easily overlooked as mundane instructions of an ancient building project. In truth, these verses layout detailed instructions for the most significant building ever constructed. The people of Israel knew very little about interacting with God. Just a few months earlier, the law was given to Moses at Mt. Sinai (Exodus 19–24). Before that, God’s people were unaccustomed to and essentially ignorant when it came to interacting with God in any way. Understood in this context, every detail of God’s instructions for the tabernacle revealed something about his character, nature and plan of redemption never known before.

The tabernacle gave God’s people a revolutionary understanding of their sin and God’s holiness, and pointed them toward a greater way of dwelling with God — a day when God would come down and dwell with his people in Jesus Christ, the “greater and more perfect tabernacle.” (Hebrews 9:11)

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### Getting Started

When you bring home a product that has “some assembly required,” are you the type of person that pours over the instructions or tosses them in the trash? How would you have reacted as a part of the Israelite work crew following God’s directions for assembly of the tabernacle?

### Starting with God

1. Read Exodus 25:1-9. What does the Lord instruct his people to make for him and why?
2. God’s intention and purpose for the tabernacle echoes God’s grand purpose, which was stated to Abraham (Genesis 17:7-8) and also earlier in Exodus (6:7). It will be repeated again and again throughout the Bible. What is it, according to Exodus 29:45-46?

3. How do the following elements present in the tabernacle point to the full redemption of God's people found in Jesus?
  - a. The curtain (see *Matthew 27:51; Hebrews 10:19-20*):
  - b. The incense (see *Hebrews 7:25*):
  - c. The bread of presence (see *John 6:32-33, 52-58*):
  - d. The lampstand (*John 1:4-5; 3:19-21*):
  - e. The bronze wash basin (see *1 Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:5*):
  - f. Sacrifices offered (see *Hebrews 9:12-14; 10:11-12*):

### Living God's Word

4. Read Hebrews 8: 1-7. The writer says that our high priest, the risen and ascended Jesus, now ministers in "the true tent" of which the tabernacle erected by Moses was merely a "copy and shadow." What does this tell us about what was being pictured in the design and furniture and activity of the tabernacle? Consider the colors and designs of the curtain.
  
5. We have seen that God has always intended to dwell with his people, and we know that one day we will see him face-to-face. According to the following verses, where has God chosen to dwell?
  - a. Genesis 3:8:
  - b. Exodus 40:34:
  - c. 2 Chronicles 7:1-3:
  - d. Matthew 3:16-17:
  - e. Colossians 1:19:
  
6. According to the following verses, where does God choose to dwell now?
  - a. Romans 8:9:
  - b. 1 Corinthians 3:16:
  - c. Ephesians 2:22:

7. According to the following verses, where does God intend to dwell?
  - a. 2 Peter 3:13:
  - b. Revelation 21:3:
8. Review your responses to the three previous questions. How does God's sovereign work throughout history impact the way you live, work and worship?

## Prayer

*Father God, your grace and your plans are too big for my comprehension.  
Thank you for the mercy of your revelation and salvation.  
Please give me the eyes to see your work in my heart, community and world.  
Amen.*