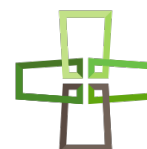


BRIARCLIFF CHURCH

Small Group Study Guide: Exodus

Week of November 19 (Week 11)

Exodus 28–29



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Sermon Overview

Looking back over the preceding chapters in Exodus, we see God's call on Moses' life and the revelation of his rescue plan for his people. As the story progresses, God reveals more and more about who he is and his plan for redemption. With this progressive revelation comes greater detail of how God wanted his people to interact with him.

Gracefully, God made a way for the Israelites to approach his holy presence. But, only within the framework of specific guidelines, and with limited access, were God's people allowed to approach. God made it clear that his people were in desperate need for a high priest to intercede with God for them. God's plan, however, was still unfolding. We are designed to worship God and draw near to him. The sacrificial system of the Old Testament only allowed the High Priest to draw near to God because he was the only person equipped, by garments and ceremony, to represent God's righteousness.

Jesus represents and perfects God's holiness. Jesus' righteousness isn't just a garment, it is who he is. And, the perfect and final sacrifice he made on the cross made it possible to share his perfect righteousness with us.

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Getting Started

When you think of a priest (or a high priest for that matter), what images are conjured up in your mind?

Starting with God

1. What three words do you find in Exodus 28:2 that define what should mark the high priest's clothing?

Living God's Word

2. One thing we are learning, and will continue to see as we work our way through the writings of Moses, is that details that might seem tedious to us are actually quite significant. How is that the case in the detailed instructions (Chapter 28) God gave regarding the clothing for the priests and high priest?

3. Look back at Exodus 28:12, 29, and 38. What key concept (or repeated phrase) was being communicated by the high priest's clothing, and why is this significant?

4. Read the following pairs of scriptures below. Discuss how God's detailed instructions guided his people in Exodus, as well as point to the perfect High Priest in Jesus.
 - a. Exodus 28:6-14 and Hebrews 9:28.

 - b. Exodus 28:15-30 and John 17:9-10.

 - c. Exodus 28:31-35 and John 19:2, 23.

 - d. Exodus 28:36-39 and Hebrews 7:26.

5. The high priests of the Old Testament were called, consecrated and commissioned. Jesus, our High Priest, was also called (Hebrews 5:4-6), consecrated (Luke 3:21-22; 4:18) and commissioned as he taught (Matthew 7:28-29), corrected (Mark 7:18-20) and led people in worship (Luke 19:38-40). How does Jesus' fulfillment as our High Priest allow you to boldly proclaim and live (Hebrews 4:16)?

6. God's people in the Old Testament were under the covenant made with Moses. This covenant demanded and displayed complete reliance on following God's law and high priests. Today, under the new covenant in Jesus, we are commanded to rely completely on his receptive work for us. How can/ do you remember dependence on a daily (or more) basis?

Prayer

Father God, thank you for your eternal, unwavering plan of redemption for your people. Please keep us joyfully dependent on Jesus our Great and Perfect High Priest. Amen.