

The Foundation of the Nation
Exodus 12:1-20

Review:

1. We become the people of God not by what we do for Him, but by what He graciously does for us on the cross of Christ.
2. We respond to God's grace with faith, trusting Him even when what He says doesn't make sense
3. Our obedience to God is the way we put our faith in His grace into action

Reflect:

1. Is there something God's Law clearly says you should do that you have a hard time understanding or obeying?
2. Has it ever been risky for you to obey God rather than go along with the crowd?
3. How does the Passover build your faith in Jesus, even in risky or confusing situations?

Go Further:

1. Read Exodus 20:13. What is the sixth commandment?
2. Read Exodus 21:12-14. In verse 12, what is the prescribed penalty for murder?
3. In verse 13, what should happen to a person who is accused of killing someone unintentionally?
4. In verse 14, what should happen to a man who schemes and kills another man deliberately?
5. Read Exodus 21:22-24. According to verse 22, what are the two men guilty of doing? What is the penalty prescribed for their actions?
6. Why do you think the penalty prescribed is so much more serious in verse 23? What does this tell us about the value of human life?
7. Read Exodus 21:28 and 29. In verse 28, what should happen to a bull if it gores a man or woman to death? What happens to the owner of the bull?
8. In verse 29, a bull who has a habit of hurting people has not been penned up. If this bull kills someone, what should happen to the bull and the owner?
9. Read Exodus 22:2. If someone who is defending his home strikes a thief who subsequently dies, under what circumstances would the homeowner not be considered guilty?
10. According to verse 3, when would the homeowner be guilty of murder? Why do you think the law makes such a distinction about the time of day? What does this distinction tell us about the value of human life?
11. Read Matthew 22:37-39. What are the two parts of the Great Commandment?

Summary and Application:

1. Thinking about Exodus 21:28-29, what is our responsibility to protect the lives of our neighbors? What kinds of reasonable precautions should we take to keep other people safe?
2. How do you think keeping the Sixth Commandment expresses our love for other people? How does keeping it express our love for God?