

WEEK IN REVIEW

We continue this week with Moses receiving the Law at Mount Sinai. God repeats His command about the Sabbath. He says, "Six days do your work, but on the seventh day do not work." The word Sabbath means to stop and delight. It wasn't just that God's people needed rest, it was rooted in a dependence on God. It looks back on God creating the world and on the seventh day resting, and looks forward to the ultimate sabbath and eternal rest we have in Jesus. There were also instructions about celebrating festivals. There are seven festivals celebrated in the Bible including: Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Tabernacle of Booths. The purpose of the festivals was to look back on all the Lord did in the past, and to look forward to what He will do in the future through a Savior.

Moses told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances and they respond, "Everything the Lord has said we will do." Additionally, God gave the Israelites specific instructions to build a tabernacle. This would be the first time God would be with His people in this way since the Garden of Eden. The Lord said in Exodus 25:8-9, "Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them." The tabernacle was to be a place where God would live with His people as they headed towards the Promised Land. They would meet and worship God there. The tabernacle (also known as the Tent of Meeting) was split between the place where the Israelites worshiped and what was called the Holy of Holies (where the Ark of the Covenant was kept and God dwelled). The Ark of the Covenant contained a copy of the Ten Commandments, Aaron's staff, and manna.

Each part of the tabernacle was symbolic. It showed the sinner's need, represented God's temporary provision for that need, and pointed to a greater fulfillment in the coming Savior. A few of the pieces of the Tabernacle are covered in this section. The altar of animal sacrifice was used for animal sacrifice and pointed to forgiveness through the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus. The Table of Showbread held twelve loaves of bread and pointed to the spiritual sustenance of Jesus who is the bread of life. The Lampstand had seven lamps and pointed to Jesus being the light of the world. The Ark of the Covenant represented access to God and pointed to the access we have to God through Jesus. Lastly, the Mercy Seat was to have the blood from the sacrifice spilled on it, representing the blood of Christ spilled for us. We can clearly see shadows of the Savior in the book Exodus. All along God is writing a big story and making a way for a greater redemption of His people through Jesus!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	God desires to dwell with His people!
KEY STORIES:	 Festival Laws Covenant confirmed Instructions for the Tabernacle
KEY VERSES:	 Exodus 23:12 "Six days do your work, but on the seventh day do not work." Exodus 24:3 "When Moses went and told the people all the Lord's words and laws, they responded with one voice, "Everything the Lord has said we will do." Exodus 24:8-9 "Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them."
PEOPLE/ WORDS TO KNOW:	 Sabbath A day of rest Festival A time to remember and celebrate Tabernacle The place where God's presence dwelt

Reflection Questions

1.	What is sabbath?
2.	What was the purpose of the festivals in the Bible?
3.	What was the tabernacle?
4.	How do these passages in Exodus point to Jesus?