



TABERNACLE GLORY

Small Group Questions for December 12 (Exodus 32-40)

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Christmas Angel - Would you like to be a “Christmas Angel” for the child of an incarcerated parent? For details, contact Kathy Kaska at 619.280.2299 or kk1535@sbcglobal.net.

Security Ministry - Serve at the Sunday services by signing up for the Security Ministry! Contact Miguel Rivera at 619.818.1261 or rockwatchmen@yahoo.com.

Premarital Ministry - Getting Married? February/March Premarital Classes are almost full. This will be the last class offered before May. Visit our website to enroll: www.therocksandiego.org.

M E M O R Y V E R S E

“So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.” **Exodus 33:11**

H O M E W O R K

Experience God – Spend some time (at least 10 minutes) each day sitting silent before the Lord. Be sure to write down what He tells you.

1. Why did Moses intercede for the Israelites?
 - a. Hint: God’s name and His reputation
 - b. Hint: God’s promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
 - c. Has God made any promises to you? Take a moment to share them with your group.

2. What does it mean to “intercede?”
 - a. Where in the New Testament can you find a parallel to Exodus 32:32? (Hint: think Paul and the Jews – see Romans 9)
 - b. Get into groups of 3 – 5 (same gender) and spend the next 15-20 minutes in intercessory prayer. Check out the following before you begin:

The following comes from the Rock’s Prayer Coordinator, Suzanne Lederer

Christ came to represent God on earth. He became the intercessor, or mediator, going between and drawing a picture of God for humanity. (John 1:18). Not only did He represent God to man, but He also represented man to God. (Hebrews 3:1)

He is now functioning as our representative, giving us access to the Father. He is mediating, not to clear us of charges, but to present each of us to the Father as righteous and one of His own. Jesus is not *praying* for us; He is *interceding* for us so we can pray. This is what is meant by asking “in His name.”

As we intercede for others, we are standing in as a mediator for someone else by asking God on their behalf. This can be done face-to-face or miles away, for someone we know or someone we don't know, for an individual, a group, or a nation.

Intercession can also take place when we are prompted by the Holy Spirit to pray. God wants to work through the prayers of His people. (2 Chronicles 7:14) He waits and is ready for you to ask. In doing so, you will see miracles and get to know God even more.

Here are a few passages that direct us how to pray:

Intercession for someone

- *Now return the man's wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you will live. But if you do not return her, you may be sure that you and all yours will die. Genesis 20:7*
- *I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being. Ephesians 3:16*

Church intercession for believers

- *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Ephesians 6:18*
- *So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. Acts 12:5*
- *With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith. 2 Thessalonians 1:11*

Intercession for those in authority:

- *I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 1 Timothy 2:1-4*

3. It seems that the gold that the people took from Egypt became a stumbling block.

- a. In what ways did it stumble them?
- b. How does the following passage from 1 Corinthians 6 fit into this scenario? (¹²*All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any*)
- c. The Bible says that the love of money is the root of all evil – not money itself (1 Timothy 6:10). The Bible also goes to great lengths to warn the believer about the dangers of wealth. When has the pursuit of “stuff” ever caused you to stumble? Share with your group how you deal with this issue.

4. The next section (Exodus 35-36) speaks as to the response of the people.

- a. As you read through this, what is the general theme in regards to the spirit of the people?
- b. Why do we clap when we take the offering on Sundays?
- c. What is the difference between a tithe and an offering?
- d. Does an offering or tithe have to do with just money?
- e. What do you have a burden for and if you had unlimited resources what would you give freely to?
- f. What were the gifts of Bezalel and Aholiab?