**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION --** Answer these questions together:

# 1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Exodus 19 gives us a clear picture of the holiness and transcendence of God, but also the love and desire of God to be near us. Together work your way through the chapter listing where you see God's holy transcendence and his loving nearness.

# 2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) How aware are you of God's holiness and your own sin? IS despair over your sin a regular part of your spiritual life? Why or why not? Why must we know our sin before we can grow in grace?

b) Look at verse 8. The people say "All that the Lord has commanded we will do." How does this demonstrate the people's lack of understanding of their own sin? Have you ever tried to live in obedience before God in your own effort and failed? How does Jesus offer a remedy for this way of living?

# 3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) Read these verses about the new covenant: Hebrews 8:6; 9:15; 10:16-17. What makes Christ's covenant with us better than the Sinai covenant of Exodus 19? How does Jesus make these promises possible?

### APPLICATION

a) Read 1 Peter 2:9. Do you see yourself as a royal priest in your little corner of the world? Have you reduced your life down to something far less meaningful? How might you be a royal priest in your home? Your workplace? Your church?

b) Do you feel like you are able to come to God without limits? How might your life look different if you really believed this?

### FIGHTER VERSES: 1 Peter 2:9-10.

### PRAYER

- Thank God for his holiness that refuses to allow sin to rule the world.
- Confess any ways that you proudly thought you could obey God on your own.
- Thank Jesus for his better covenant that forgives your sin and cleanses your heart.
- Ask God to help you to live as his holy royal priest in the world today and every day.