Sermon: Restoring the Image of God. Scripture: Exodus 21:1-22:15.

Series: Exodus: From Slavery to Glory. Date: March 19, 2023

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) What, if anything, in this passage bothers you about God or his law?
- b) Read Deut. 32:4. God is a god of justice. Where does God's justice stand out to you from this passage? (Justice = striving for equality in society, lifting up the oppressed)

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) How do these laws reveal the sinfulness of man? How do they reveal the dignity within man?

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

- a) Read Exodus 21:5-6 again. A scenario is described where a slave chooses freely to live with their master forever because they love their master. How is this a picture of Jesus? Of our salvation?
- b) How is the gospel (the law of Christ) even more just and merciful than these laws? Can you think of specific examples?

APPLICATION

- a) In what ways do you seek to practice justice in your everyday life? At work? In the home?
- b) Have you given any thought to modern day slavery? What might you do to seek justice?

FIGHTER VERSES: Romans 13:8-10.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his justice.
- Confess ways that you have failed to uphold the image of God.
- Thank Jesus for loving you, becoming your servant, and never leaving you.
- Ask God to help you to live from the law of Christ.