

## **Exodus 19 home group study questions**

*By Phil Bailey*

1. Israel was rescued to be God's treasured possession, a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (vv.5-6). Peter says that Christians already have that status in full, in 1 Peter 2:9. This is because Jesus has fully obeyed God and kept his covenant, just as Israel was called to in Exodus 19:5. We are clothed with Christ (Gal 3:27), so his perfect obedience is credited to us too – we are as much treasured by God as him.
  - Do you find it easy to believe that you are treasured by God, as part of his people?
  - If not, how can you encourage one another as a group to believe that with greater confidence?
2. If we already have the status of kingdom of priests and holy nation in full, through Christ, why does obedience still matter for Christians today?
3. In what ways are we in most danger of looking just like the non-Christians around us, rather than being distinct as a holy nation?
4. We have such a privilege as a kingdom of priests, getting to draw near to God in intimate relationship. Read Hebrews 12:18-24. Why are we even more privileged than the Israelites were at Mount Sinai?
5. How might enjoyment of our incredible intimacy with God motivate and shape our obedience?
6. We enjoy the holy privilege of coming to the heavenly Jerusalem most of all when we gather as a whole church on Sundays. This is when we most fully reflect, in microcosm, the heavenly gathering as we join our praises with theirs and hear God speak to us through his word. The Holy Spirit connects us with God and with the heavenly gathering. How might these truths shape our expectations as we prepare to gather again in person on Sunday mornings?