

**The Story**  
**Week 3: Lessons to Live By**  
**May 30th, 2021**

***OPENING PRAYER***

Have someone in the group invite God's Holy Spirit into our presence. Pray for your encounter with God's Word. Ask God to open your heart and mind to some new understanding and especially to a new way of applying this truth in our daily lives.

***SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES***

~Safe Group	~Silence	~Sharing
~Confidentiality	~No Cross Talk	~Self-Aware
~Listen	~No Fixing	~"I" Statements
~Pause	~No Rescuing	~Handle Conflict Biblically

***"GETTING TO KNOW YOU"***

Go around the room and briefly share your answer to the following question:

**Growing up, what rule(s) did you break or dislike the most in your household?**

***INTRODUCTION***

**The Story** is our current series and focus over the next several weeks. As we step into week 3, we are going to look at how God spoke through Moses to the people of God through a set of commandments on how to engage in relationship with God and with each other. Our study this week is titled ***Lessons to Live By***. Our scripture is found in *Exodus 20:1-18*.

***THIS WEEK'S KEY SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20:1-18***

Read the passage: Have someone in your group read the passage of scripture as everyone else follows along in their Bible.

***DISCUSSION:***

Go around the room and share from your heart, remembering the group guidelines.

***EXPLORING THE SCRIPTURE:***

- What do you notice in this text with new or fresh eyes?
- What do you struggle with?
- What surprises you?
- What encourages you?

***ENGAGING THE MESSAGE:***

- In this week's discussion, focus on the 10 Commandments and why they are important as guidelines for authentic relationships between God and people. Take a moment to explore each one. Try not to go too deeply into discussions of whether or not these commands are kept, but rather focus on why God gave them. See if you can help each other see God's purpose in providing these "Lessons to Live By."
- Now that you have explored the principles, reflect on Jesus' promise in Matthew 5:17 - *"Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the Law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose."* What did Jesus mean by that?

***LIVING IT OUT-APPLICATION:***

- How can Jesus "fulfill the purpose" of God's law in your life?

***CLOSING PRAYER:*** Spend some time in prayer, pray for the season we are in, for those that may be affected, for the community, for our world. Pray for one another, for those that might be absent and for prayer requests.