

---

# Small Groups and Home Study

Week of June 17th, 2018



## Opening Prayer

A member of the group may open the time with prayer.

## Focus on the Scripture :

Exodus 20:1-17, Matthew 22:34-40, Romans 13

1. Read from more than one translation of the Bible.
2. Are there any notable differences between these translations?
3. If any, name the main people, locations, events, things that are mentioned in the reading.
4. Which stories or events come before or after this reading? Do you see a connection?



## Questions for Group Discussion

1. There are 613 laws found in the Old Testament. Look through Exodus 20, Numbers 28, Leviticus 11-19, Deuteronomy 23-25, among many other places. What laws stand out to you. What does the law say? What does it require? Is it positive or negative? Why might this have been a law?
2. Jesus was asked which is the greatest commandment. How does he respond? How does his response help us to understand some of these more obscure laws of the Old Testament?
3. Are we expected to follow all 613 laws? What would life look like if we tried?
  - a. Two resources for further reading:
    - i. *The Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible*, Book by AJ Jacobs
    - ii. *A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her Head, and Calling Her Husband "Master"*, Book by Rachel Held Evans
4. How can a literal view of Scripture be positive? How can the same view be negative?
5. What do we do with our questions of the Bible? What resources can we use and how can we trust what we hear?
6. Romans 13 is written by Paul. Attorney General Jeff Sessions quoted it this week in regards to following the laws of the government. What do you see in your reading? Is this what Paul is saying? How do these scriptures fit in the rest of what he says in chapters 12, 14, and the remainder of 13?
7. What do we know about Paul's life and the Roman government? Did Paul always obey the government? Why or why not? How or how not?