



COMPREHEND HIS LOVE
Exodus 19-31
NOVEMBER 28-29, 2015
Pastor Todd Dugard

WARMING UP

1. *The Five Love Languages* highlights gifts, quality time, words of affirmation, acts of service, and physical touch as different ways that love can be given and received. Which is your primary love language? What can happen when you attempt to give love in the way that you prefer to receive it?

DIGGING IN

2. *You'll get that God loves you when you . . . accept the boundaries he sets (19:1-23:19).*
 - "Boundaries are not intended to oppress and make you miserable but to point out where you're safe and where you're not." Discuss this together. Give some everyday examples. What kind of person do you tend to be—one who stays far back from boundaries, one who gets as close as possible, or one who blows past them without regard? How so?
 - Pastor Todd focused in on the Ten Commandments in 20:3-17. How do they accomplish four key things for us: (a) reveal God's character; (b) mean more than what they say; (c) warn us about the consequences of disobedience; and (d) present an impossible standard? What other features stand out to you in these commandments? How have you personally experienced God's boundaries an expression of his love?
3. *You'll get that God loves you when you . . . believe the promises he has made (23:20-33).*
 - What specific promises does God make to the Israelites and to us in this passage? What are some of your other favourite promises in Scripture? How do God's promises validate his love?
 - What does it mean in 2 Corinthians 1:20 when it says, "For all the promises of God find their Yes in [Christ]"? What are the implications?
4. *You'll get that God loves you when you . . . commit to the covenant he has established (24:1-18).*
 - Unpack the idea of a covenant. How is it different from and/or similar to a contract? What covenant has God established with us as his people? Look up the following passages for more context: Luke 22:19-20; 2 Corinthians 3:12-16; Hebrews 7:22; 8:6; 9:15.
 - What does it mean that relationships like marriage and church membership are covenantal in nature? How should we be more God-like in our commitment to these relationships?
5. *You'll get that God loves you when you . . . draw down on the access he has provided (25:1-31:11).*
 - Those who desire access to God will give whatever they need to give and do whatever they need to do to make that access possible. How is this evidenced in the text? How does this play out in our lives today?
 - The Tabernacle points in every detail to Jesus. Explore some of the key elements of this tent of meeting. How do Ephesians 2:13 and Hebrews 10:19-22 speak to our access through Christ?
6. *You'll get that God loves you when you . . . enjoy the rest he offers (31:12-18).*
 - God says, "You don't have to strive after your salvation, you don't have to worry or fear—just rest." How is this an amazing demonstration of God's love? To what degree are you enjoying God's rest? How could you improve in this regard?

BREAKING OUT

7. Do you truly comprehend God's love for you? Other than the gift of salvation, which is the clearest proof, how has he made his love known in your life? Receive his love afresh and rejoice!

	Commandment	What God is saying about himself	How it means more than what it says	The warning it communicates	The impossibility of it
1	No other gods	<i>He is the only God</i>	<i>I must actively and passionately and exclusively worship God</i>	<i>Worshipping other gods severs my relationship with the one true God</i>	<i>I have a divided heart</i>
2	No idols	<i>He wants me to worship him in a specific way</i>	<i>I must learn how to worship him according to his Word</i>	<i>Anything I cherish more than God is an idol and shows where my heart is</i>	<i>I struggle to worship in spirit and in truth; so many distractions; I want to do it my way not his</i>
3	No misuse of the Lord's Name	<i>He is to be honoured with my mouth</i>	<i>I must profess my devotion to the Lord; speak and sing his praises; telling others about him</i>	<i>My words are a reflection of what is in my heart</i>	<i>The tongue is a restless evil</i>
4	Take a Sabbath rest	<i>He created the world in six days and rested</i>	<i>I devote one in seven days to rest, reflect on and recharge spiritually and physically</i>	<i>I risk wearing out and along the way forgetting the goodness of God; I substitute busyness for godliness</i>	<i>Even when I do rest, it usually isn't the way he intends</i>
5	Honour your parents	<i>He established the family</i>	<i>I must honour them throughout their life; family takes care of family</i>	<i>If I don't, it won't go well for me</i>	<i>What kid hasn't disrespected his parents?</i>
6	No murdering	<i>He is the giver of life</i>	<i>I must not only not hate but actively love my enemies</i>	<i>When I hate people I put myself at odds with God; I expose myself to hate from others; I cause relational wreckage</i>	<i>I wish people out of my life; I don't love my enemies</i>
7	No adultery	<i>He is one and the male and female are both created in his image</i>	<i>I must see that sex is holy and beautiful and for marriage; my covenant relationship is a picture of oneness</i>	<i>Sex outside of monogamous, heterosexual marriage produces a world of hurt</i>	<i>In the highly sexualized culture I live in it is all but impossible to not lust</i>
8	No stealing	<i>He owns everything in heaven and on earth</i>	<i>I must respect the property of others and hold loosely to what I own</i>	<i>Hoarding and stealing are self-destructive</i>	<i>I think I own what I have; I hoard what I have; I'm not good at sharing</i>
9	No lying	<i>He is truth</i>	<i>I must speak with integrity and truth at all times</i>	<i>Cannot be trusted</i>	<i>The heart is deceitful</i>
10	No coveting	<i>He is sufficient</i>	<i>I must be content with what I have and generous with what I have</i>	<i>Never ending discontent and dissatisfaction with life.</i>	<i>My sense of entitlement makes it hard for me to be content; I have trouble being generous</i>