



# COVENANT

## COVENANT OF FREEDOM FACILITATOR GUIDE

### FREEDOM

In this week's covenant series, Pastor Chris looked at the covenant God made through Moses. As we have been studying, covenants are agreements between two parties. Last week, we looked at how God made an agreement with Abram and actually took all the responsibility for that agreement on Himself. Part of the promise God made to Abram was that his generations would dwell freely in a land promised to them. Yet it had been 400 years in slavery for the Israelites.

When you are going through a difficult season of your life, time can move so slowly. And 400 years is a long time!

**Is there a difficult season of your life that you thought would never end?**

**Read these verses:**

**Exodus 13:3**— Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day when you came out of Egypt, out of the place of slavery, for the Lord brought you out of here by the strength of his hand.

**Exodus 13:14** — “In the future, when your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ say to him, ‘By the strength of his hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, out of the place of slavery.

**According to these verses, what message does God seem to want the people to understand? [God was their deliverer. Rescue was only achieved through His power and strength. It is nothing they can brag of on their own.]**

**What message do you think God is wanting us to get through our difficult times? [We cannot rescue ourselves. We are only delivered by God's grace and strength.]**

## FREE AT LAST

Finally, after all those generations of people, God raises up a leader to fulfill what He had promised to Abram. He was about to lead the many descendants of Abraham to a land of freedom that would be theirs.

**Exodus 19:4–6** (CSB) — ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. Now if you will carefully listen to Me and keep My covenant, you will be My own possession out of all the peoples, although the whole earth is Mine, and you will be My kingdom of priests and My holy nation.’ These are the words that you are to say to the Israelites.”

So God demands a **PARTNERSHIP** where man and God work together to accomplish the same thing. Through Abraham, God already illustrated that He knew man was not capable of holding up his end of the bargain, yet He was willing to present this agreement to the Israelites—serve Me and I will take care of you.

So God presented them with 10 rules to adhere to—**THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**.  
Read Exodus 20 and name each one:

1. Have no **OTHER GODS BEFORE** God.
2. Make **NO IDOLS**.
3. Don’t take **GOD’S NAME** in vain.
4. Remember **THE SABBATH AND KEEP IT HOLY**.
5. Honor **YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER**.
6. Don’t **STEAL**.
7. Don’t **COMMIT ADULTERY**.
8. Don’t **KILL**.
9. Don’t **LIE**.
10. Don’t **COVET**.

(You don’t have to answer out loud...)

**How long has it been since you have committed one of these sins?**

God’s proposal to Israel was based on their ability to keep these ten commandments in a perfect manner. But no one is perfect. Except one....

Look what Jesus says:

**Matthew 5:17-19**— “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore

whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

**How might Jesus be the fulfillment of the law we can't keep? [If we but believe in Him, we are saved by the fact that HE CAN keep the law.]**

**We are not saved by WHAT WE CAN DO,  
but we are saved by WHAT HE DID.**

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## **BONDAGE**

For generations, Abraham's descendants knew nothing about what it was to be free. They never knew anything more than the fear of the whip across their back.

**What does it mean to be a slave? [To live under difficulty. To live in constant fear.]**

**FEAR** is a type of slavery.

**Describe how fear can hold a person in bondage. [Fear is an unpleasant strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger—often times an unnecessary fear. It causes anxiety and paralyzes a person, keeping them from functioning normally.]**

**2 Timothy 1:7**—For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.

**Is there something that holds you in bondage today?**

**What does it say about a Christian who exhibits characteristics of fear?**

**Romans 8:15** (CSB) — For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear. Instead, you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father!"

**According to this verse in Romans, where does freedom come from? [Our heavenly Father]**

**2 Timothy 1:7** tells us that “God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of sound mind.”

The apostle Paul wrote these words to Timothy. Paul knew that Timothy struggled with a timid personality and needed encouragement to be bold for the Gospel.

“Fear” was also originally intended to mean cowardice or timidity. Paul was exhorting Timothy to not let the spirit of fear keep Him from preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The spirit of fear can cause us to shrink in the face of opposition, persecution, and struggles. The Spirit of God wants us to move forward into God’s will with confidence!

The first purpose of the law is to act as a **MIRROR**. We look into the law and see ourselves. You and I cannot keep the law. We fall short of God’s moral standard. We are sinners. We have fallen short of the glory of God. The law cannot save but the law testifies that **WE NEED TO BE SAVED**.

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## **PRAYER TIME**

- Thank God for His saving grace that rescues us from the bondage of sin and frees us to eternal life!
- Ask God to show you the places where you fail living up to the commands in His book. Pray for help and strength.
- Ask God to make you more aware of His grace on your life daily.
- Pray for others that struggle with accepting His grace by faith. Pray that God would help them lay down the struggle of trying to be good enough to merit salvation and just accept it as God’s gift to them.