

A dark, atmospheric photograph of a forest. Tall, slender evergreen trees are visible, their branches reaching upwards. The ground is covered in dense, dark foliage. A thick mist or fog hangs in the air, obscuring the background and creating a sense of depth and mystery. In the center of the image, there is a solid blue rectangular box. Inside this box, the words "WEEK 5" are written in a white, stylized, outlined font. The letters are tall and narrow, with a modern, geometric feel. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

WEEK 5

WEEK 5

DAY 29 - MONDAY - THE SKILLED WORKERS

Exodus 31, Jeremiah 31:31-34, II Corinthians 3:1-3

THE LORD OF THE SABBATH

While we may not live in fear of death if we miss church on Sunday, the Sabbath is still a matter of life and death. It is a matter of spiritual life and death. God made the Sabbath for us, because we need it; "it is holy for you." The Sabbath rest, the consecrated day of worship is not something God handed down from the beginning just for kicks. The Sabbath pattern is ingrained in creation itself, and it is ingrained in us well—whether we recognize it or not. We need the Sabbath to be who we need to be. **We need the Sabbath because we need the Lord of the Sabbath.**

The Sabbath recalibrates us for the work we are to do in the world. It is a holy reminder that we are not our own, that our talents and abilities, our know-how and our personality are all from God. He is the one who qualifies us for service in this world. He is the one who sanctifies us. We have been bought with a price, and the life we now live, whether in work or in rest, we live to Him (1 Corinthians 6:20).

Written by Caleb Faires - *He Reads Truth*

If you study Sabbath throughout scripture, you see that this is more than just setting aside time to worship or attend church. Sabbath is a set aside time to cease our working and striving to truly rest in God and enjoy the gifts he has given us. Worship comes as a natural response to resting and delighting in Him. Sabbath requires us to slow down and look for Him... where is He working, what is He revealing to me, how can I enjoy Him? You should come away from Sabbath refreshed and ready to serve the Lord with your life for another week.

**WHAT DID YOU LEARN ABOUT
GOD IN TODAY'S READING?**

**DO YOU SET ASIDE TIME
IN YOUR WEEK FOR TRUE
SABBATH REST?**

**WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE
FOR YOU TO MAKE THAT A
REGULAR RHYTHM?**

Go to graceclarksville.com/intheword for additional study resources.

WEEK 5

DAY 30 - TUESDAY - THE GOLDEN CALF

Exodus 32, 1 Kings 12:26-28

MISGUIDED WORSHIP

The Israelites are worshipping a golden calf while God's making plans to draw near to them, agreeing to spare their lives. How often do we doubt His timing and take matters into our own hands? How often do we find something else to worship when it seems He's forgotten us? May we trust His timing, even in His so-called delays.

Written by Tara-Leigh Cobble - *The Bible Recap*

We all have "golden calves" in our lives, things that we turn to instead of God for comfort, pleasure, distraction... things that we pour our lives out for instead of pouring our lives out for Him.

**WHAT DID GOD REVEAL TO
YOU ABOUT HIMSELF?**

**WHAT DID GOD REVEAL
ABOUT THE HUMAN HEART?**

**HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO
WHAT YOU READ TODAY?**

**HOW DOES IT MOVE YOU TO
PRAY?**

WEEK 5

DAY 31 - WEDNESDAY - THE LORD'S GLORY

Exodus 33, Genesis 3:8-10

**LOOK FOR GOD: WHAT IS HE LIKE?
WHAT DOES HE LOVE OR HATE?
WHAT MOTIVES HIM?**

**WRITE DOWN ANYTHING NEW OR
ANYTHING THAT JUMPS OUT AT
YOU.**

**WRITE DOWN QUESTIONS YOU
HAVE OR ANYTHING YOU WANT TO
STUDY FURTHER.**

**PAUSE TO REFLECT ON WHAT
YOU'VE LEARNED IN PASSAGE.**

WEEK 5

DAY 32 - THURSDAY - MOSES' RADIANT FACE

Exodus 34, John 14:8-11, II Corinthians 3:12-18

GENERATIONAL SIN

The most difficult part of Exodus 34:7 is God's promise to "visit the sins of the fathers on the sons, and upon the sons of sons, and on the third and fourth." But what does that mean?

This verse DOES NOT mean that God will punish an innocent following generation for the sins of their parents.

- This interpretation goes against other statements in the Hebrew Scriptures, such as Deuteronomy 24:16, Jeremiah 32:16-19, and Exodus 20:5-6
- Clarification of this commandment shows that the following generations are persisting in the same behavior.

This verse DOES mean that God will punish successive generations for committing the same sins they learned from their parents.

Taken from *The BibleProject's "Character of God in Exodus" Study*

**WHAT DO THESE PASSAGES
TEACH ME ABOUT GOD?**

**WHAT DO THESE PASSAGES
TEACH ME ABOUT
HUMANITY?**

**WHAT DO THESE PASSAGES
TEACH ME ABOUT JESUS?**

Refer to the chart on page 52 for more on Exodus 34.

WEEK 5

DAY 33 - FRIDAY - OFFERINGS TO BUILD THE TABERNACLE

Exodus 35, John 10:17-18, Romans 12:1

GENEROUS LIVING

Israel's motivation for giving generously toward the building of the temple was rooted in their knowledge and experience of the Lord. They remembered His faithful presence among them as they journeyed out of Egypt and into the Promised Land.

At this point in redemptive history, we do not have to build a temple for God to dwell among us. Jesus Christ came to do just that; He is Immanuel, "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). Even more, Jesus came and laid down His life so that you and I could inherit all the eternal riches included in His eternal kingdom.

If you want to be motivated to give generously, consider the eternal treasure of all that is ours in Christ. As Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). We have received all we truly need in Christ, therefore, let us give generously in response to the overflow of God's grace.

Written by Matt Capps - *He Reads Truth*

**TAKE SOME TIME TODAY TO
FOCUS ON THE BLESSINGS
GOD HAS GIVEN TO YOU.**

**HOW DOES THAT MOVE YOU
TO BE GENEROUS WITH YOUR
BLESSINGS?**

**WHAT IS ONE STEP YOU CAN
TAKE IN LIGHT OF WHAT YOU
HAVE READ TODAY?**

WEEK 5

DAY 34 - SATURDAY - GRACE DAY

Use today to rest, pray, and reflect on this week's reading.

As you reflect on what you've read this week:

1. *What themes did you see emerge?*
2. *What was the biggest thing that God revealed to you this week?*
3. *What next step do you need to take based on what He revealed to you this week?*

WEEK 5

DAY 35 - SUNDAY- REFLECTION DAY

Meditate on these verses:

"The Lord is a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in faithful love and truth, maintaining faithful love to a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, rebellion, and sin."

Exodus 34:6-7

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. We all, with unveiled faces, are looking in the mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit."

II Corinthians 3:17-18

EXODUS 34:6-7	GOD'S ACTIONS IN EXODUS 32-34
Compassionate and gracious	Moses intercedes by asking "to find grace in your eyes" (Exodus 33:12, 16).
Slow to anger	God is patient with the Israelites' grumbling in Exodus 15-17, but he eventually gets angry when they violate the terms of the covenant.
Abounding in loyal love and faithfulness	God is compelled to remain faithful to his own covenant promises to Abraham.
Forgiving iniquity transgression and sin	Moses' last act of intercession is to ask God to forgive Israel's sins in the future (Exodus 34:9).
Yet he won't declare innocent the guilty	God allows Moses to send the Levites to strike the 3,000 idolaters.
Repays sinful generations to the third and fourth but keeps loyal to thousands	God will deal with each generation as it deserves.

Adapted from The BibleProject's "Character of God in Exodus" Study