

**Exodus 19:1** Exactly two months after the Israelites left Egypt, they arrived in the wilderness of Sinai. **2** After breaking camp at Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and set up camp there at the base of Mount Sinai. **3** Then Moses climbed the mountain to appear before God. The Lord called to him from the mountain and said, “Give these instructions to the family of Jacob; announce it to the descendants of Israel: **4** ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. **5** Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. **6** And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.’ This is the message you must give to the people of Israel.” **7** So Moses returned from the mountain and called together the elders of the people and told them everything the Lord had commanded him. **8** And all the people responded together, “We will do everything the Lord has commanded.” So Moses brought the people’s answer back to the Lord. **9** Then the Lord said to Moses, “I will come to you in a thick cloud, Moses, so the people themselves can hear me when I speak with you. Then they will always trust you.”

**Exodus 19:14** So Moses went down to the people. He consecrated them for worship, and they washed their clothes. **15** He told them, “Get ready for the third day, and until then abstain from having sexual intercourse.”

**16** On the morning of the third day, thunder roared and lightning flashed, and a dense cloud came down on the mountain. There was a long, loud blast from a ram’s horn, and all the people trembled.

**17** Moses led them out from the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. **18** All of Mount Sinai was covered with smoke because the Lord had descended on it in the form of fire. The smoke billowed into the sky like smoke from a brick kiln, and the whole mountain shook violently. **19** As the blast of the ram’s horn grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God thundered his reply.

**20** The Lord came down on the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses climbed the mountain.

**21** Then the Lord told Moses, “Go back down and warn the people not to break through the boundaries to see the Lord, or they will die.

**22** Even the priests who regularly come near to the Lord must purify themselves so that the Lord does not break out and destroy them.”

### Questions:

1. What did God do for the people of Israel in verse 4?

2. What did God ask the people of Israel to do in verse 5?

What will God do for them in verses 5 & 6?

3. How did the people of Israel respond to all the Lord commanded them in verse 8?

4. Put yourself into this story as as the thunder roared and lightning flashed as Moses lead the people of Israel to meet God.

Describe how it would be to be in the presence of God.

5. How does Jesus make it possible for you to enter the presence of God?