



LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Encounter*

Message: *The Entrance to
God's Presence*

Scripture: *Exodus 25:1-9; 27:9-
19; 27:1-8; 30:17-21*

Date: May 18 & 19, 2019

—[LET'S START]—

Pastor Dale opened his message by talking about the experience of climbing into the cockpit of a 747 simulator and having the chance to take off and land at several airports around the world. What are some of the unique experiences that you have had in your life?

—[LET'S TALK]—

1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** What happened last week for which you are thankful? What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? As a group, take some time to pray. Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work, and pray about the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.
2. Read Exodus 25:1-9.

Pastor Dale explained that the Israelites received these materials when they left Egypt (see Ex. 12:35-36). What does God's request of the Israelites reveal about Him? What does the response of the people teach you about them?
3. One of Pastor Dale's points this weekend was that "If you and I want to experience the presence of God we need to demonstrate our need for God." How have you seen this to be true in your life?
4. In Exodus 27:9-19 we read about the gate of the Tabernacle. The gate was incredibly symbolic as the entrance to the meeting place between man and God.

Read John 10:1-9. What does this passage reveal to us about Jesus? How does what Jesus reveals about Himself compare to society's picture of how we encounter God?
5. Read Exodus 27:1-8. The first piece of furniture the Israelites saw when they entered the Tabernacle was the Brazen Altar. They could not advance any further towards God without encountering the altar. What do Matthew 20:28, 2 Corinthians 5:21 and Colossians 1:19-20 teach us about sacrifices?
6. Read Romans 12:1-2. What does this passage teach us about the daily sacrifice that we are still called to make as Christians living in the 21st Century?

—[LET'S ACT]—

As he closed his sermon, Pastor Dale challenged us to be living sacrifices. He demonstrated what it means to place the following on the altar for God:

- Mind
- Will
- Emotions
- Body
- Material things

Let's close our time by willfully surrendering our lives as living sacrifices to God.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- The major parts of the tabernacle are the Gate, Altar and Laver which are in the courtyard. Then you have the Tent of the Meeting or some call it the actual Tabernacle. Inside is the lampstand, the Table of Bread, the Altar of Incense and the sacred veil that separates it from Holy of Holies where the Ark of the Covenant is present. This is the dwelling place of God.
- It wasn't the Egyptians who gave Israel all this wealth it was God who used the Egyptians to bless His people.
- As long as we hang on to our blessings instead of investing them in what matters most to God we limit our ability to experience His presence.
- You cannot meet God on your own terms, it has to be by His design!
- "When our sacrifice meets God's design his glory is revealed!"
- You cannot encounter God unless you move towards Him in obedience!
- There is no other way to encounter God except the way which He provides!
- To encounter the presence of God in your life you must surrender fully to Him every day.

—[NOTES]—
