



LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Encounter*
Message: *The Holy Place*

Scripture: *Various Passages*

Date: May 25 & 26, 2019

—[LET'S START]—

Throughout this sermon series, our pastors have been talking about how the Tabernacle in the Old Testament is a picture of how we encounter God through Christ. The Tabernacle Experience comes to Wooddale Church later this week. Which part of the Tabernacle that we have studied so far are you most interested in seeing at The Tabernacle Experience?

—[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 Psalm 141:1-2.

Pastor Kyle said that we encounter God when we intentionally and honestly talk with God. When do you find that your prayer life is strongest? When is it most difficult to engage with God in prayer?

Read Revelation 5:8, Proverbs 15:8 and Psalm 51:1-2, Psalm 66:18, Psalm 145:3 and 1 John 1:9. What do these verses teach us about prayer?

3. Pastor Kyle said that we encounter God when we enjoy our relationship with Him. John Piper has said that God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.

How was the Table of the Bread of Presence in the Tabernacle a symbol of us enjoying our relationship with God? How do Jesus' words in John 6:35 speak to our satisfaction in Christ?

4. The final piece of the Tabernacle that we looked at this week was the Golden Lampstand. The lampstand served as a constant reminder that wherever God dwells there is light. Read Jesus' words in John 8:12. What is the significance of what Jesus said proclaimed in this verse? How did Jesus fulfill Isaiah's prophecy in Isaiah 9:2?

5. Read Matthew 5:13-16. What is the significance of these verses in light of what we have studied about Jesus this week?

—[LET’S ACT]—

In his message, Pastor Kyle told us that we encounter God when we intentionally and honestly talk with Him, when we enjoy our relationship with Him and when we allow the revealing nature of His light to change us. What is God showing you that you need to focus on this week? Let’s end our time today by praying that each of will live as people who are following Jesus, being changed by Jesus and living on mission with Jesus.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- There are certain ways to behave in certain places, which begs the question, “Is there a property way to respond when we are in the presence of God?”
- The Holy Place was off limits to almost everyone. Only the priests were able to enter into this area and only for set purposes. The restrictions were put in place to remind the people of God’s holiness, that he was set apart and you couldn’t just walk into God’s presence and demand his attention. It was God who chose to make a way for people to encounter him.
- It is only through Jesus that we can encounter God and how we can encounter God. Because of Jesus we have full access to God. In other words, because of Jesus we can now experience God in a similar way the priests did in the Holy Place.
- If you have placed your faith in Jesus, you are a priest (See 1 Peter 2:9).
- Two times each day a priest would offer incense to the Lord. Throughout Scripture, incense has a close connection to prayer (Psalm 141:1-2).
- Our prayers matter to God. We encounter God when we intentionally and honestly talk with God.
- As we approach the altar of incense, we must come before the Lord with a heart of confession for God to hear our prayer.
- The second element in the Holy Place was the Table of the Bread of Presence. 12 loaves of bread were divided into two stacks, 6 in one and 6 in the other. The 12 loaves were a symbol of God’s desire to be with his entire people, representing the 12 tribes of Israel. We encounter God when we enjoy our relationship with Him.
- The third element in the Holy Place was the golden lampstand. The lampstand served as a constant reminder that wherever God dwells there was light. It was a foreshadowing of a promised new light to come – Jesus. We encounter God when we allow the revealing nature of his light to change us.

—[NOTES]—
