

Sept 18 | Sunday

The God Who Lived in a Tent

Read [Exodus 25:1, 8-9; 29:42-46](#) and [John 1:14](#)



19 | Mon – Preparing a sanctuary | Read [Exodus 25:1-9](#)

Because the desert was not the Israelites' permanent home, the sanctuary where they would meet God had to be portable, basically a tent, so they could take it with them as they traveled. How could a God who created the universe fit in a tent? Does this tell you something about the lengths God will go to meet with you?

20 | Tue – Two altars | Read [Exodus 27:1-8](#) and [30:1-8](#)

The large altar was where sacrifices were offered and pointed to God's willingness to forgive sin. The small altar burned incense and the fragrant smoke was a symbol of the people's prayers rising up to God. That was then and this is now. Jesus became the ultimate sacrifice once and for all time so that animal sacrifices are no longer needed. And if you have trouble believing how precious your prayers are to God, read Rev. 5:8 to see where he places them. How can you weave prayer through your day today?

21 | Wed – Bread and light | Read [Exodus 25:23-37](#)

In the sanctuary, there was bread (called the Bread of the Presence) placed on a table to remind the people that God not only provided daily bread for physical nourishment but his presence also brought spiritual life. The lampstand reminded them of the way God would reveal their next step. Are you hungry for something you can't identify or is there a dark place in your life that needs illumination? Remember, Jesus said he was the light of the world and the bread of life. Ask for what you need.

22 | Thu – God's holiness veiled | Read [Exodus 26:31-35](#)

The curtain separating the holy place from the *holiest* place vividly taught the people to respect God's holiness. But when Jesus died, the curtain was torn in two from top to bottom, showing people that they now have direct access to God. It was a clear sign that, in Jesus, God had indeed "come to live among us" (John 1:14). If God still seems far away, take time to have an honest conversation about it with Him.

23 | Fri – The Ark of the Covenant | Read [Exodus 25:10-22](#)

A gold box called the ark of the covenant was the centerpiece of the sanctuary. Inside was the covenant God had made with them. The box had a cover that featured two angels facing each other with their wings sheltering the top. This was to become the place where God said, "I will meet with you." Grow your faith in the Lord God by taking a closer look at the new covenant promises he has given us in Jesus. Do you believe He can be trusted?

24 | Sat – Then the presence of the Lord came down... | Read [Exodus 40:33-38](#)

When the sanctuary was set up, it was the glory of God coming down that made it a sanctuary. Do you have a special space where you meet with God? It is very meaningful to have a consistent time and place. Be open to unusually places, like a walk-in closet or a kitchen table. Even these can become holy places when filled with God's presence.