

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons

Genesis 19:16-25
Sunday, October 8, 2017
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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. In what ways did the LORD manifest His presence to Moses?

The LORD appeared to him on Mt. Sinai at the burning bush that was not consumed. The LORD had discussions with Moses. The LORD worked miracles through Moses and his staff. The LORD gave the Law and Covenant to the Israelites through Moses, and the LORD wrote the Law with His own finger on two tablets of stone. Moses experienced more with the LORD than the Israelites at the foot of the mountain ever experienced.

2. In what ways did the LORD manifest His presence to the Israelites?

By observing the miracles that Moses performed with his staff in Egypt and in the wilderness. By seeing a thick cloud, with lightning and hearing thunder and a loud trumpet descend on Mt. Sinai. By hearing a conversation the LORD had with Moses. By seeing fire and smoke on the mountain and feeling the whole mountain trembling violently. By seeing God act and speak in human history, especially their own history.

3. Why do you think God refused to allow the Israelites to see His form?

The LORD did not want them to make any graven images of Him or anything else, which they would have done more quickly if He had allowed them to see a form of Him. God is greater than the human eye can see, the human ear can hear, or the human mind conceive. In addition to God’s acts in history and through nature, what we truly know of

God is from His words and Word: His Word written and His Word made flesh that dwelt among us when Jesus Christ came into the world. The Bible explains why nature and human history alone are not sufficient to reveal completely God's character and nature.

4. In what ways did God reveal His covenant and laws to the Israelites?

God revealed His covenant and laws to the Israelites through the words God gave Moses to give to them and the Ten Commandments written by His finger on stone tablets.

5. What are some of the ways God showed His concern for the Israelites?

God warned them twice through Moses not to touch the mountain, so they would not die. God gave them laws to live by and govern themselves by so they could govern themselves wisely and have a human government with wise leaders that would prevent them from falling back into slavery if they obeyed God's laws.

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