



WALKING BY  
**FAITH**

## The Law and the Life

EXODUS 20:22–23:19

*The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;  
the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple ...*

*Psalm 19:7*

### I. God's law leads us to life when we learn it and understand it \_\_\_\_\_.

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Take \_\_\_\_\_ of your own spiritual growth.

### II. God's law leads to life when we apply it \_\_\_\_\_.

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15*

Let \_\_\_\_\_ set your context for growth rather than yourself.

### III. God's law leads to life when it pushes us to \_\_\_\_\_.

*Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. Galatians 3:23-26*

Make \_\_\_\_\_ on Jesus your fuel for spiritual growth.



## HOME GROUP STUDY & DEVOTIONAL

As you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Read Exodus 20:22—23:19. Christians are no longer “under law” (Rom 6:15), but we are “slaves to God” (Rom 6:22). How, then, are passages like this relevant to our lives today?
2. How does God’s law stress the value of human life?
3. What does this passage say about God’s character?
4. In other Near Eastern cultures, a slave was the total, permanent property of their master. What humanitarian limits did God place on slavery in Israel (21:1-11, 20-21, 26-27)?
5. What seem to be the purposes of Israel’s three annual festivals (23:14-17)?
6. How is the principle of restitution (22:1-4) applied in Luke 19:8-10?
7. Ignorance and neglect were as punishable as deliberate infractions when they affected others (22:5-6, 14). Have you damaged anyone’s possessions or feelings because of carelessness? If so, what can you do about this?
8. Read Matthew 5:38-42. Why do you think Jesus told us to treat people with generosity rather than justice? Do you think He was rejecting the principle of fair retribution in the legal system as well as in private relationships? Why or why not?

### FOR DEEPER STUDY

In the passages below, what area of life is dealt with and how does it relate to a believer’s walk today?

20:22-26  
21:1-11 21:12-36  
22:1-15 22:16-17 22:18-20 22:21-27 22:28-31  
23:1-9 23:10-12 23:13-19

### A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn’t based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God’s love for us. Here’s how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
  2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
  3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
  4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
- “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
- “Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.”

This section of Exodus includes basic laws that deal especially with the protection of human life and property. By accepting “the book of the covenant” (Ex 24:3-8), the people entered into a special relationship with Jehovah and obligated themselves to obey Him. These laws were not arbitrary; they’re based on the character of God and the unchanging moral principles expressed in the Ten Commandments. Law is powerless to change human nature; it can only protect life and property by regulating human behavior. One of the most dangerous and disastrous periods in Jewish history was the time of the judges when “every man did that which was right in his own eyes” (Judg 17:6; see also 18:1; 19:1; 21:25). The enforcing of good laws doesn’t guarantee a perfect society, but it does promote order and prevent anarchy.

WARREN WIERSBE

The laws in 21:1-23:12 are to be understood merely as a representative selection of the whole Mosaic Law. It is not an attempt at a complete listing of all the laws. The purpose of the selection was to provide a basis for teaching the nature of divine justice. By studying specific cases of the application of God’s will in concrete situations, the reader of the Pentateuch could learn the basic principles undergirding the covenant relationship. Whereas the ‘ten words’ provided a general statement of the basic principles of justice which God demanded of His people, the examples selected here further demonstrated how those principles, or ideals, were to be applied to real life situations. The continual return to the theme of idolatry throughout this section of the book is preparation and background for an appreciation of the incident of the golden calf (Ex 32).

JOHN SAILHAMER

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here’s a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you’d like to find out even more, visit [ccbcfamily.org/events](http://ccbcfamily.org/events).



**WE’D LOVE TO GET TO KNOW YOU** Scan the QR code to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions, learn more about your story, and help you take your next best step. Along the way, you can also learn more about who we are and our vision for ministry!

### STUDENTS, WE’RE EXCITED TO SEE YOU!

We’re so excited to launch a new year of events and programming for students in 5th grade through high school! In Student Ministry, we pursue a generation because God first pursued us! This fall, through intentional small groups, dynamic worship, and Bible-centered teaching, we’ll help students discover their true identity in Christ and see how He shapes every part of their lives. We’re kicking off on Sunday, Sept. 7, and you can get details at [ccbcfamily.org/students](http://ccbcfamily.org/students).

**FIND YOUR GROUP** We want you to experience authentic, lasting community every day of the week. Our home groups are designed to help you grow deeper in your faith and walk alongside one another as we live out the gospel together. We believe that this is one of the most powerful ways the church can truly be the church! Join a group today at [ccbcfamily.org/groups](http://ccbcfamily.org/groups).



**ELDER AND DEACON CANDIDATES** Scan the QR code to see our full list of Elder and Deacon nominations. This list has been unanimously approved by our Board of Elders, and it also includes the constitutional requirements for these leadership positions. If you are a constitutional member of Christ Chapel, you’ll receive a voting link on Wednesday, Aug. 27, to cast your vote by Sunday, Aug. 31, at 12:30 P.M. Results will be shared with members at our annual meeting on Sunday, Aug. 31 at 1 P.M. at the South Campus.

**LET’S GO TO GOD TOGETHER** We know that God hears our prayers, and where two or more are gathered, he is present. That’s why we’re excited to come together each Monday to lift our praise, our requests, and our worship to him during a time of prayer together. We’ll pray for our church, our cities, and our nation! Join us Mondays at 12:30 P.M. in the Oak Room and let’s seek God together!

**YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAMS** If your children have a love for music, we’d love to partner with you in nurturing that gift—for their growth and God’s glory. We offer a range of youth music programs tailored to various ages, experiences, and interests. Learn more at [ccbcfamily.org/music](http://ccbcfamily.org/music).



**IF YOU’D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE** The process is quick and easy—scan the QR Code to start.