

The Law of Love
Exodus - Week 11
May 3, 2026

As we journey through Exodus together, create space to listen, reflect, and grow. There is no pressure to have the “right” answers – only an invitation to be present. Trust the Holy Spirit to lead the conversation and to gently shape your heart along the way.

Open up together:

- What’s your honest reaction to the question “*What does love require of me?*”

Read Together:

Exodus 21:23-25

But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.

Exodus 21:28-29

“If a bull gores a man or woman to death, the bull is to be stoned to death, and its meat must not be eaten. But the owner of the bull will not be held responsible. If, however, the bull has had the habit of goring and the owner has been warned but has not kept it penned up and it kills a man or woman, the bull is to be stoned and its owner also is to be put to death.

Exodus 21:33-34

“If anyone uncovers a pit or digs one and fails to cover it and an ox or a donkey falls into it, the one who opened the pit must pay the owner for the loss and take the dead animal in exchange.

Exodus 23:4-5

“If you come across your enemy’s ox or donkey wandering off, be sure to return it. If you see the donkey of someone who hates you fallen down under its load, do not leave it there; be sure you help them with it.

Exodus 22:21-24

“Do not mistreat or oppress a foreigner, for you were foreigners in Egypt.

“Do not take advantage of the widow or the fatherless. If you do and they cry out to me, I will certainly hear their cry. My anger will be aroused, and I will kill you with the sword; your wives will become widows and your children fatherless.

Romans 13:8-10

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Reflect & Share:

- The laws in Exodus move from rules to relationships. Where do you see love shaping behavior in these passages?
- The idea of "eye for an eye" was meant to limit harm, not escalate it. Where do you see escalation happening in our society? And, in your own life or relationships?
- The message highlights responsibility—not just for actions, but impact. Talk about the difference.
- Loving your enemy means moving toward people you'd rather avoid. Who is one "difficult" person in your world—and what might love look like there?
- God measures a community by how it treats the vulnerable. Can you agree with this? Does it encourage you to take action?

Pray Together:

Spend a moment quietly thinking and inviting God to bring one person or situation to mind. Hold that person/situation before Him and gently ask: *"What does love require of me here?"*

Write down one small, specific step (a conversation, forgiveness, kindness, presence, restraint).