



# Tuesday Devotion: Exodus Week 6 May 5, 2020

## Consistency

Bible Reference: [Exodus 20](#)

And God spoke all these words saying, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." (*Exodus 20:2*)

Exodus 20 is all about the 10 commandments, but surrounding those commandments are love. God, who saw His people in slavery, rescued them. The above verse reminds us of His love and grace for the people of Israel before He gives them (and us) the law. That is who my God is, a God of love. He never changes and is always consistent. I can look at Jesus in any season of my life and see His consistency. Try to find someone else who has done that, and you won't find them because they don't exist.

This past weekend was a real tough weekend for me. My anger at this virus situation boiled to the surface and I was left depressed and sad. I was angry with the inconsistency in our world right now. I have friends who are so passionate about the danger of this virus and yet they still go out with friends maintaining "proper social distance". If this is so dangerous, should we even be doing that? To me that sends a mixed message. I was angry that the stay-at-home order, which was started so that we would not fill up the hospitals, has now become an outcry for another vaccine. I was angry with people who have all the authority but seem to have no responsibility for all the information that changes. I was angry with other churches who think they are above the rules and impact our Lutheran name. I wanted to be consistent in this wilderness. I wanted to follow Jesus and our authorities to take out the guesswork of what we should be doing, to make it easier for all of us in the end, but when the world around us is so full of inconsistency, that is hard to do. It just makes me angry.

This chapter of Exodus reminds me of who Jesus is...He is love, and yet He has expectations. When I don't meet those expectations, He comes back to me with love and forgiveness. Exodus 20 is the perfect example of God's consistency with His expectations and His forgiveness, even in the wilderness. I should know better than to expect the same from the world.

That is what we need, someone to be consistent. We need someone to have expectations, but yet be merciful with us when we mess up. One of my favorite

authors, Donald Miller, says that the greatest young adults he has met have parents who admitted their mistakes. They had parents who acknowledged they were inconsistent, but yet pointed their kids to the one that was always consistent.

I want you to know that I want communion to come back. I want to see you again in services. But I also want you to know that I am praying that my voice would be in line with my consistent God. If this virus is deadly enough to put stay-at-home orders in place, then I want to be a church who is compliant and consistent with our community by following them. I also pray that my voice would speak to you the words of our Savior, Jesus, the most consistent voice I have ever heard. Jesus is the one I can always rely on and always return to. From Him I hear words of expectation and forgiveness, or as Lutherans like to say, Law and Gospel.

God's Peace,  
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