



**March 10, 2024**  
**Sermon Study Guide**  
 Lead Pastor Brian Bales  
 The Power of a Name: *Jealous*  
 Exodus 34:10-14

*And he said, “Behold, I am making a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been created in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the Lord, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.”<sup>11</sup> “Observe what I command you this day. Behold, I will drive out before you the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.<sup>12</sup> Take care, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you go, lest it become a snare in your midst.<sup>13</sup> You shall tear down their altars and break their pillars and cut down their Asherim<sup>14</sup> (for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God), Exodus 34:10-14(ESV)*

After leading the people of Israel out of Egypt and captivity, God brought them to Mount Sinai and gave Moses the 10 Commandments to take back to the people. While Moses was on the mountain top with God the people started worshipping Idols (Baal) because they had become impatient and wondered if Moses was ever returning. God recognized this and sent Moses down the mountain to confront the people. When Moses sees what they have done, he is angry and throws down the 10 Commandment tablets of stone that God had given him breaking them in the process. God was willing to destroy Israel because of their idolatry but Moses intercedes, and God relents. When we look at Chapter 34 – Moses is back on the mountain top with new Stone Tablets and God is telling him again about the exclusive relationship he desires with his people.

A Life Application Study Guide

James 1:22-25 tells us to put into practice what we are discovering in God’s word.

1. Think of a time when you thought you knew someone based on the things that they had done. Perhaps you looked at their achievements, their net worth, their title, and you believed something about them only to discover that what you believed about their character was not accurate.
  - How did you discover more about that person’s true identity? What sources did you go to that you trusted as accurate and truthful?
  - Consider the time required in building a relationship, getting to know who that person really is. It may literally take a lifetime. So how much time have you invested in getting to know God and who He really is? What are your reliable sources?

2. *In ancient writings like the Bible, a name was way more than a label you used to make a dinner reservation or sign up for a spin class or file your taxes with the IRS. Your name was your identity, your destiny, the truth hidden in the marrow of your bones. It was a one-word moniker for the truest thing about you—your essence. (John Mark Comer, God Has a Name)*
  - Think of someone that you dearly love, if you want the best for them how do you convey that to them?
  - If you are a parent, you have experienced this genuine love firsthand. Parenting requires more than hoping that your child will follow your instructions and plans for them, it requires action on your part and then they must follow. How do your actions reflect that you follow God, YHWY?
  - If God is described as *Jealous*, how do you process that name for God? What did you hear about God today in the teaching that shifted your view of who He is and how He feels about you?
3. God wants the best for us, which also means that He wants us to follow Him and leave behind the idols in our life. We may have overlooked that we have idols so consider carefully what distracts you from living in the way that God has called you to live?

- What takes up a sizable portion of your time? Even if it originally seemed good, consider if it has become consuming.

- Reflect honestly on what it is that you have placed ahead of God. What must you do to identify that idol and move it out of your life altogether or reassign it to its proper place?

- Consider the words of Jesus in this passage. How does it reinforce this teaching today as we look at who God is and what He desires for us? *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. John 10:10*

4. Our priorities will influence how we represent who God is to those in our sphere of influence.

- People watch us because they may admire us and want to be more like us or because they are looking for the cracks in our armor. What are others observing about what is most important in your life today?

- Where would they see God's position of both authority and prominence in your actions and choices?
- How will you allow the power of the Holy Spirit to help you move God to His rightful place in your life?

### **MAKING IT REAL**

This week, ask God to speak to you and show you where an idol is holding you captive and allow Him to remove it. Then allow Him to replace it with what He wants most for you.