My/Our Story - How Does This Apply Today?

Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God. Exodus 34:14 (NIV)

"I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols. Isaiah 42:8 (NIV)

"The human heart is a factory of idols... Every one of us is, from his mother's womb, expert in inventing idols." (John Calvin)

Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. Revelation 2:4 (NIV)

What ______ To Me?

If the greatest command is to love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength; what then is the greatest sin?

How Does What _____ Most _____ Most _____ Up In My Life?

?

How Am I ? Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.¹⁸And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. II Corinthians 3:17-18 (NIV)

Am I _____

Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey." Exodus 24:7 (NIV)



Key concept in understanding The Story: The new is in the old concealed;

The old is in the new revealed.

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! ¹⁵For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. ²⁷Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Hebrews 9:14-15; 27-28 (NIV)

The LOWER Story – What Happened In History?

Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ⁴ 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations *you* will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites." ⁷So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak.⁸The people all responded together, "We will do everything the LORD has said." So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD. ⁹The LORD said to Moses, "I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, so that the people will hear me speaking with you and will always put their trust in you." Then Moses told the LORD what the people had said. Exodus 19:3-9 (NIV)

Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey." Exodus 24:7 (NIV)

When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him." Exodus 32:1 (NIV)

Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. ²⁶ So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, "Whoever is for the LORD, come to me." And all the Levites rallied to him. Exodus 32:25-26 (NIV)

The UPPER Story – What Is God Doing?

As God initiates a covenant relationship with His people, he establishes the ground rules that encompass a growing relationship.

A Growing Relationship Requires:

1. A _____ To The Relationship.

The priority I place on relationship, will determine the ______ of ______ in that relationship.

The Great Command –

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NIV)

The Great Expectation -

And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good? Deuteronomy 10:12-13 (NIV)

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:36-40 (NIV) When the LORD finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the covenant law, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God. Exodus 31:18 (NIV)

2. A_____For The Relationship.

Now Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp some distance away, calling it the "tent of meeting." Anyone inquiring of the LORD would go to the tent of meeting outside the camp. ⁸And whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people rose and stood at the entrances to their tents, watching Moses until he entered the tent. ⁹As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stay at the entrance, while the LORD spoke with Moses. ¹⁰Whenever the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance to the tent, they all stood and worshiped, each at the entrance to their tent. ¹¹The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent.

If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people." ¹⁴The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. Exodus 33:13-15 (NIV)

3. A _____ To Grow The

Then the LORD said to Moses: ²"Set up the tabernacle, the tent of meeting, on the first day of the first month. Exodus 40:1 (NIV)

Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. ³⁵ Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Exodus 40:34-35 (NIV)

4. A _____ To Be Paid For The Relationship.

The LORD called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting. He said, ²"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When anyone among you brings an offering to the LORD, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock. Leviticus 1:1-2 (NIV)