**Fellowship CommUnity Group**

 **Discussion Guide for Leaders**

*Series: no other gods*

*Sermon: An Unholy Cow*

 *5-19-19*

1. **Getting To Know Each Other** Ask everyone in the group to answer. Opening Question: **What is your favorite food to eat grilled?**
* **Opening Prayer**. (Either leader, host home or someone who is willing to pray out loud)

*(Notes from message for reference only – use only as needed)*

**\*\***Use Sermon notes bulletin insert

* **Exodus 32**
* **I. The people become impatient and lose faith in Moses and the LORD God**.
* **II. Aaron and the people craft and build a golden calf**.
* **What commands did they violate**? Both 1st and 2nd Commandment.
* **What else was so vile and offensive to God about this?** > This idol worship was an act of rebellion against the specific way God had prescribed for his people to worship him.
* **III. The Lord tells Moses what the people are doing**.
* **IV. Moses comes down from the mountain and he sees the people’s rebellion**.
* **V. Aaron resists taking responsibility for his actions**.
* **VI. God pronounces and then brings judgment on the people**.
* **VII. Moses offers himself as a substitutional sacrifice for the people**.

**Into The Text** (15 Minutes) (Leaders: This time is not meant to be application yet, this is time in the Word, before we seek to apply truth, we need to understand the truth. The section after this one will focus on application.)

1. Ask someone to read Exodus 32:1-6. *Ask: Why were the people impatient? What was Moses receiving from God on the mountain? What was so wrong about what the people said in v4? What was Aaron doing by proclaiming a feast to Yahweh? Discuss together the scene you imagine around the golden calf.*
2. Ask someone to read Exodus 32:7-14. *Ask*: *Why did God call Israel ‘your’ people? What does it mean to be a stiff-necked people? What is significant about that word? Why was God so angry with the people? What did Moses appeal to in order to convince the Lord to turn from his anger?*
3. Ask someone to read Exodus 32:15-24. *Ask: Why was Moses angrier when he came down than he was on the mountain? What is the significance of the broken tablets of the law? Why did Moses make the people drink the water? How would you describe Aaron’s response to Moses?*
4. Ask someone to read Exodus 32:25-35. *Ask: Was God ‘just’ in his judgment on the people? Why was Moses trying to atone for the people? What does that say about Moses as a leader?*

**Application & Discussion** (15-20 Minutes)

1. Say: **Let’s move to application and discussion**. *Ask: In what ways is our world still worshipping the golden calf? How is the scene around the calf similar to our world today?*
2. *Why does God prescribe a specific way to be worshipped? Can we just worship God however we want? What does that mean? Should your worship of God follow biblical instruction?*
3. Moses referenced all that God had done for Israel already when he prayed that God would turn from his anger. *Why is that significant? What great things has God already done in your life? Is the Lord going to complete the work he started in you? What does that mean?*
4. *Ask: Is the Lord going to eventually judge humanity? Should we be telling people that? How should we do that? How popular will that message be?*
5. *Ask: What is God revealing to you about your idols?*

**Closing Prayer Time**: (10-12 Minutes) **(Leader Say:**) Let’s close with a time of prayer. Let’s continue to ask God to reveal the idols of our heart to us. (*Ask someone to open, let people pray as they feel led, and then leader closes.)*