**chapter 5: new commands and a new covenant**

**Icebreaker Question**: What was the most important agreement you ever made with somebody? How difficult was it to keep that agreement?

1. What do the Ten Commandments reveal about the nature of God and His desire to have a relationship with us (p. 61-62)?

2. What does it mean that God is holy? What are the implications of God’s holiness as we seek Him?

3. Moses said, “*Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning*” (p. 61). How does the fear of God restrain sin?

4. The Lord spoke to Moses “*as one speaks to a friend*” (p. 67). What was there about Moses that God found so pleasing? How would you rate your relationship to God, from 1 = Total Stranger to 10 = Close Friend.

5. God describes Himself as jealous. What does this tell us about God? Why is it okay for God to be jealous?

6. How did Israel go from “everything the Lord has said we will do,” to building a false god in scarcely over a month? Why is it so easy to forget God and pursue other things?

7. God reminded Moses that children live with the consequences of their parents’ sins (p. 68). How have your parents’ choices (good and bad) affected your life? How are your choices possibly affecting your children? What needs to change?

8. God showed Moses His glory because He is “gracious and compassionate.” Describe a time when God showed grace and compassion to you.

9. After punishing the Israelites for the golden calf, Moses immediately sought reconciliation with God. How should believers today hold one another accountable? How can we do this gracefully?

10. God describes Himself as compassionate, slow to anger, gracious, and abounding in loving-kindness (p. 68). Where do you see these qualities in this chapter?

In the time remaining ask your group members to share any of their personal reflection insights from their journal entries.