

1. **Exodus** -

- The Hebrew name for the book is “*shemot*,” which means “the names.”
 - In the ancient world, it was custom to refer to the book by one of its first words.
- Exodus 1:1 begins with, “These are the names (*shemot*).”
- The book was also referred to as “the departure from Egypt.”
 - In Greek, the word departure is *exodos*.

2. **Redemption** – the foundational message of the Bible. God promises that all will be redeemed.



3. The book of Exodus is a story of **Redemption** – first Israel, then eventually all humanity.



4. **Creating a “Space” for God to dwell:**

- The final 15 chapters of Exodus are dedicated to creating a sacred space for God to dwell with his people – the Tabernacle.
- Sacred Physical space – the Tabernacle
- Sacred Space in Time – the Sabbath (Exodus 31:12 and Exodus 35:1-3)
 - The commandment to keep the Sabbath brackets the Golden Calf and the re-engraving of the Tablets.

5. What happens when we create a space for God?

- Tabernacle – **Exodus 40: 33-35**
 - Once Moses completed the space – God moved in.
- Temple – **2 Chronicles 7: 1-2**
 - Once Solomon completed the space – God moved in.

6. **Pentecost – Acts 2** – the Church as the dwelling place for God's presence.

- The spirit of God – in fire – comes out of the Temple in Jerusalem and lands on the NEW Temple.
- God's new Temple is made up of Living Stones – **1 Peter 2:5**

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house

- Paul tells the followers in Corinth that they (plural) are the Temple of the Holy Spirit – **1 Cor. 3:16**

Don't you know that you yourselves (plural) are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?

7. What are we doing as individuals and as a community of faith to create a space for God's presence to dwell?