

Weekly Rhythm

Thinking more about the readings –
connecting our stories with the story of God and His people.

Readings with thanks to www.gbod.org

Exodus 12:1-14. God instructs Moses and Aaron how the people are to prepare for "The Passover of YHWH" and its observance throughout all generations. The Passover is so central to the life of the people of Israel that they date their life from that point. It begins their existence as a liberated and set free people.

Recall to mind any moments like this in **your** life, moments that mark a new beginning, that define your whole life in a new way?

Psalms 148. This psalm depicts praise from heaven and praise from earth. Try to list the reasons for praise God given in this psalm.

What moves **you** to praise God?

Romans 13:8-14. Paul exhorts the Romans to "owe no one anything except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law." In advocating love as completing the law Paul seems to encourage the law as a means to express love. No matter which way you are coming at it, it is about love. The end (completion) of all things is also an encouragement to moral (loving) behaviour.

What is the danger of obeying the law without Love?

Is there some way in which the law gives direction to love?

Matthew 18:15-20. Jesus teaches how to deal with conflict between church members, speaks of binding and loosing, and promises his presence wherever two or three are gathered in his name to deal with conflicts that have outgrown the efforts of the individuals involved to resolve them.

Do you consider the guidelines given in this passage as helpful? Why or why not?

How might these guidelines help **you** in the way you deal with your church community of fellow believers?

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