

# Monday, July 6

## Read

Exodus, Chapter 30

## Reflect

According to Exodus 30:20, if we don't wash our hands we'll die. Maybe that's where the CDC got the idea. God instructs the priests to wash their hands and their feet (in the same bowl!!!) before entering into the Tabernacle. Exodus 30 offers instructions for the right way to worship as well as the right way to be the people of God. The instructions are so specific, ranging from materials to event calendars, to smells. This chapter even provides incense and oil recipes only to be used for worshipping God. All of this points to the simple and profound reality that there is something special and unique about the Hebrew people's relationship with God. This is true in different human relationships as well. We don't relate or interact with all people the same way. We walk around our families in clothing (or lack of clothing) that we would never wear in public. Why? Because our relationship with our family is special and unique. Like the Hebrews in Exodus, we are a people of God, and more specifically because of Christ, we are people with God. There is something special and unique about our relationship with God through Christ Jesus. In a word, it's intimate. We can share things with God, we can interact with God, and we can love God in a way that we can with no one else. What is it that's so unique about our relationship with Christ? Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans. "Who is in a position to condemn us, only Jesus Christ. [What does Christ do?] "It is Christ Jesus who died for us, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us." In a time and season that feels out of control, the one constant is the unique intimate love of God we experience in Christ Jesus. Say *yes* to God's *yes* to you today. Say *yes* to the unique intimacy offered to you from the one who has been with you from the beginning.

## Respond

What would it look like if you said *yes* to the special, unique, and gracious nature of a relationship with Christ today? What's your recipe for worship in the time of COVID – 19? When's the last time you sat still in God's presence? When's the last time you laughed with God from joy overflowing? As you prepare for prayer, pause and lean into the Holy Spirit's invitation toward increased intimacy with God. Imagine the hand of Christ Jesus extends toward you, take it, and see where Christ would lead you today.

## Pray

Open my lips O Lord, may my mouth declare your praise. For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Broken as I am oh God, you

offer me all of yourself in Christ Jesus. Grant me the courage to say *yes* to your *yes* to me and offer you all myself today. Amen.