

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE JOURNEY

Exodus 23:20-33

- On the journey, God's PRESENCE goes before us—so we should OBEY His voice.
- On the journey, the VICTORY belongs to God, and He will win our battles LITTLE-BY-LITTLE.
- On the journey, DO NOT COMPROMISE your relationship with God.

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. How do you think the Old Testament applies to Christians? What does it mean that the Law is not *to* us, but it is *for* us?
2. Read Exodus 23:20-22. What clues do you see about the identity of this “angel?”
3. How does the Presence of Jesus going before you in life comfort you? Have you ever seen Jesus go before you in life to care for you or help you with something that was coming? (see Matt 28:20; John 15:5)
4. What is the relationship between obedience and blessing? How is this different from works-based salvation?
5. Read Exodus 23:27-31. How is the battle and the victory described? What's the significance of the victory coming little-by-little? How have you seen this play itself out in your life (1 John 2:12-14; Matt 13:31-33)?
6. Reading through this passage, where does it call out compromise? What little compromises do you see Christians make today?
7. What are some influences in your life that tempt you to compromise?
8. How can you tear down those potential idols? (Ex 23:24)

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“I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. . . . Come further up, come further in!” — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle