

## November 1, 2020 2 Corinthians 3:7-18

Read Exodus 34:29-35 and 2 Corinthians 3:7-18.

1. Paul describes the Old Covenant as the "ministry that brought condemnation" and the New Covenant as the "ministry that brings righteousness." What do you observe to be the differences between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant?

2. Read verses 12-13. The word for "bold" really means "open." What does it mean to be set free to be open and unveiled while living under the New Covenant?

3.	What are some of the consequences for Christians who continue to live under the Old Covenant today?
4.	Read verses 14–16. What does it mean to turn to the Lord?
5.	Read verses 17–18. What do these verses teach us about the process of transformation?
6.	Discuss this quote by Mike Yaconelli in light of what we are learning about the New Covenant: "Spirituality isn't a formula; it's not a test. It's a relationship. Spirituality isn't about competency; it's about intimacy. Spirituality isn't about perfection; it's about connection. The way of the spiritual life begins where we are now in the mess of our lives. Accepting the reality of our broken flawed lives is the beginning of spirituality, not because the spiritual life will remove our flaws, but because we let go of seeking perfection and instead seek God, the One who's present in the tangledness of our lives. Spiritually isn't about being fixed; it's about God being present in the mess of our unfixedness."

What does it look like for you to take the mask off? Which of these seem to resonate most with you:

- a. Chuck your list of do's and don'ts
- b. Invite Jesus into the mess of your broken life
- c. Contemplate the Lord's glory and be transformed

7. How can your community group help you be set free to live open lives under the New Covenant?