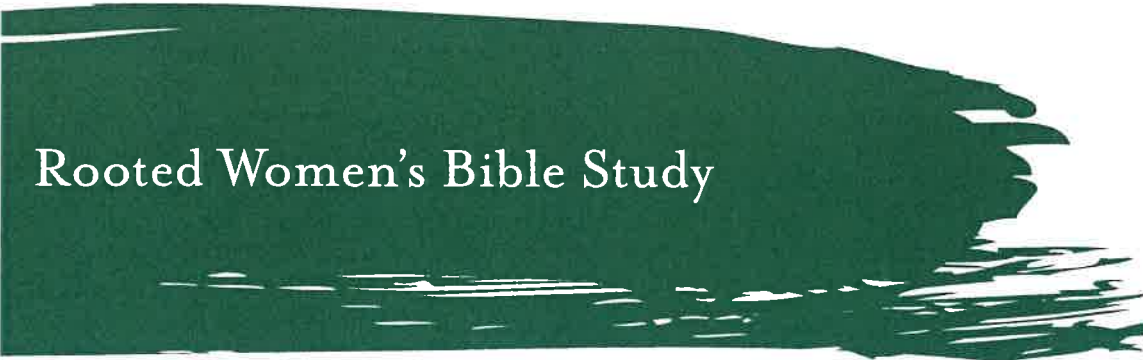


The Law of Love

A Study In Deuteronomy
Part 2: Deuteronomy 12-34



Rooted Women's Bible Study

The Law of Love

A Study in Deuteronomy

Part 2: Deuteronomy 12-34

Written By:
Beatrice Galloway
Cherié Leatherman
Kristi Wile

Edited by:
Kristi Wile
Cherié Leatherman
Kris Sine

Cover Design:
Karli Weiss

Foreword

Have you ever thought about how amazing it is that the God of the universe, the One who breathed entire galaxies into existence, the God who out of the dust of the ground formed and fashioned humans into His image and likeness has written a book and preserved it to this day so that you and I might open its pages and begin to discover Him as He has revealed Himself?

From "In the beginning God..." to "Amen, Come, Lord Jesus..." page after page reveals God and His unfolding plan of redemption for a world that has been plunged into darkness. And you and I are invited by its Divine Author to open its pages and begin a journey of discovery!

The Bible is unlike any other book written. "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man [and woman] of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Because of its Divine Author we can have confidence that Scripture is the unchanging truth of a God who loves us and calls us to Himself. We can trust the word that is spoken to be good and right and true and we can gladly place ourselves under its authority.

So let us embrace the journey of discovering the God of the Bible as He reveals Himself to us through His written Word!

ABOUT ROOTED WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Even though I was raised in the church and had a solid knowledge of the Bible, I was still living in spiritual darkness. In 2010 God miraculously and graciously awakened me out of this darkness and brought me into His marvelous light. He began to grow in my heart a hunger to know Him and I began to study the Bible with earnestness under the teaching of Jen Wilkin, a women's Bible study teacher from Texas.

For the first time the Bible became a living book and I began to understand the gospel. I began to grow to know God through consistent and faithful study of His Word. And knowing Him began to change me. A longing began to grow in my heart for other women to know my God through His Word. And thus began the Rooted Women's Bible Study (RWBS).

ABOUT OUR PROCESS

Because it was through Jen's ministry that I was discipled in the study of Scripture, I use the same process in RWBS that she uses in her classes. If you would like to read more about the process, I highly recommend her book: **Women of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts & Our Minds.**

While the Bible is made up of two parts, the Old and New Testaments with a total of 66 separate books written over hundreds of years, it is woven together and is one book with one story to tell. Just as in any other piece of literature that is read, we want to read the Bible within its context and with care.

What I mean is this: The Bible, while it is ultimately written by a Divine Author, was also written by men chosen by God to bring us His Word. 2 Peter 1:21 says "For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." So the Bible was written by a specific person, to a specific people, at a specific time, and for a specific purpose. Some of its books are historic narratives, some are poetry, some are prophetic books and others are letters. And to fully comprehend what the author is trying to communicate, we need to try to understand as much as possible the historical and cultural context of what we are reading so that we can understand what it has to say to us.

Another part of the process of our Bible study is to read repetitively. So often as we are reading, we don't really digest what we are reading. This study guide is written in such a way to help us slow down, read repetitively and begin to digest the words that are on the page. Our goal by reading repetitively is to move through three critical stages of understanding: comprehension, interpretation and application.

1. **COMPREHENSION** - Reading comprehension is asking the question, "*What does the text say?*" This is not always an easy thing to do. Sometimes in order to help us comprehend what the text says we will look up words in the dictionary, observe the setting that is described and make a list, or re-write passages of Scripture in our own words.
2. **INTERPRETATION** - Once we know what the text says, we ask the question, "*What does the text mean?*" Now I want to point out that we are not asking the question, "What does it mean to me?" The

meaning of the text is determined by the original author and discovered by the reader.

3. **APPLICATION** - Once we know what the text says and discover what it means, then we are ready to finally ask the question,

“How should this change me?”

“The Bible does tell us who we are and what we should do, but it does so through the lens of who God is. The knowledge of God and the knowledge of self always go hand in hand” (Jen Wilkin, Women of the Word). We need to see ourselves in light of who God is. To do this we approach our study through a God-centered perspective by asking these questions:

- What does this passage teach me about God?
- How does this aspect of God’s character change my view of myself?
- What should I do in response?

These are extremely challenging questions to answer but they are important questions. In your workbooks I have these questions at the end of each lesson. You may struggle each week to answer those questions, but I do want you to try. I want you to wrestle with these questions in your thoughts and think them through and do your best to answer them.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

In conclusion I have some words of encouragement that I want to give you before we start this journey...

1. **HAVE FUN** - Enjoy yourself. Delight yourself in God’s Word. In Jeremiah 15:16 the prophet Jeremiah says, “When I discovered your words, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God of Heaven’s Armies” (NLT). Isn’t that a great encouragement to us?? Bible study is serious work. It’s hard work. But don’t ever forget that these words are words that are meant to be our joy and our heart’s delight!

2. **DON’T STRESS** - You can’t have fun if you are stressed! This format of Bible study may be new to you and you may find the questions difficult or annoying or even unanswerable. I don’t want you to stress about the homework! I’m a “Type A”

personality. I have the propensity that if I don't answer all the questions in a workbook, or if they are not correct, I will have a personal crisis. I've had to learn to get over that. The point of many of these questions is to get you to think about what you are reading. I want to get both your mind and heart engaged in the Bible and wrestling with what you are reading. Don't stress if you can't figure out the answers. Don't stress about whether your answers are right or wrong. Study. Read. Wrestle. Discuss. Learn. Have fun. But DON'T stress!

3. STORE UP TREASURE - When we approach the study of God's Word with a God-centered perspective and seek to faithfully read it within its context over a period of time, we are storing up treasure in our hearts. There are days when this may not feel beneficial. We may not get the sense of comfort we are looking for, or we may not have an "aha" moment of deep spiritual insight. However, faithfully reading and faithfully studying is faithfully abiding in the Word and there will be fruit. You are storing up treasure in your heart for the day when you will need it. I have found that there are seasons of life that we experience darkness and the Holy Spirit will take some of this cumulative treasure that you have been storing up, and will bring it to your memory to bring healing and comfort to your soul. So be encouraged to faithfully study and treasure up God's Word in your heart.

Thank you for joining me on this journey in Bible Study! I am praying that this study will be a source of encouragement and discovery and that through your labor to study well, your knowledge and love for the God who wrote this book will widen and deepen! May we together grow to be more like Christ as we behold Him in Scripture!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cherie". The signature is written in black ink and has a fluid, elegant style with a long, sweeping underline.

Resources Used in Writing & Teaching this Study

Bibles:

ESV Study Bible (*The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*®), Copyright © 2008 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

NIV Study Bible (NIV Zondervan Study Bible, © 2015 by Zondervan. All rights reserved.)

Life Application Study Bible (*The Holy Bible, New Living Translation* © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndall House Foundation. All rights reserved.)

MacArthur Study Bible, 2nd Edition, English Standard Version® (© 2021 by Thomas Nelson. All rights reserved.)

All Scripture in this Study Guide are from the *ESV® Study Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®)*, Copyright © 2008 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Online Resources:

www.gotquestions.org

www.miriamwebster.org

www.bible.ca (maps)

www.visualunit.me (maps)

Books & Commentaries:

Fernando, A. (2012). *Deuteronomy: Loving Obedience to a Loving God*. Crossway.

Craigie, P. C. (1976). *The Book of Deuteronomy*. William B. Eerdmans Publishing.

Tripp, P. (2021). *Do You Believe?: 12 Historic Doctrines to Change Your Everyday Life*. Crossway.

Merrill, E. (1966). *An Historical Survey of the Old Testament*. The Craig Press.

M.G. Easton M.A., D.D., *Illustrated Bible Dictionary*, Third Edition, published by Thomas Nelson, 1897. Public Domain, copy freely.

Table of Contents

Bible Study Week	Scripture Passage/Title	Page
1	Introduction & Review	1
2	Deuteronomy 12:1-28 ~ "Laws Concerning Worship, Part 1"	5
3	Deuteronomy 12:29-13:18 ~ "Laws Concerning Worship, Part 2"	15
4	Deuteronomy 14:1-16:17 ~ "Holy to the LORD"	27
5	Deuteronomy 16:18-18:22 ~ "Love Justice & Mercy"	39
6	Deuteronomy 19-22 ~ "Love Your Neighbor, Part 1"	53
7	Deuteronomy 23-25 ~ "Love Your Neighbor, Part 2"	71
8	Deuteronomy 26-28 ~ "When You Enter the Land"	81
9	Deuteronomy 29-30 ~ "Covenant Renewed"	101
10	Deuteronomy 31:1-32:47 ~ "Looking Forward"	113
11	Deuteronomy 32:48-34:12 ~ "A Prophet Like Moses"	129
Appendix 1	Attributes of God	i
Appendix 2	Biblical Covenants	v
Appendix 3	Interesting Maps	ix
Appendix 4	Small Group Discussion Guide	xiii



“Hear, O Israel:
The LORD our God,
the LORD is one.

You shall love the LORD your
God with all your heart and with
all your soul and with all your
might. And these words that I
command you today shall be on
your heart.”

Deuteronomy 6:4-6



Week 1: Introduction & Review

Let this be your prayer today:

Forever, O LORD,
your word is firmly fixed
in the heavens.

Your faithfulness endures to
all generations;
you have established the earth,
and it stands fast.

By your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are your servants.

If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have given me life.

I am yours; save me,
for I have sought your precepts.
The wicked lie in wait to destroy me,
but I consider your testimonies.

I have seen a limit to all perfection,
but your commandment is
exceedingly broad.

~Psalm 119:89-96~

Introduction & Review:

Week 2: Laws Concerning Worship, Part 1

Deuteronomy 12:1-28

Let this be your prayer this week:

Oh how I love your law!
It is my meditation all the day.
Your commandment makes me wiser than
my enemies, for it is ever with me.
I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.
I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.
I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.
I do not turn aside from your rules,
for you have taught me.
How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.

~Psalm 119:97-104~

Week 2: Laws Concerning Worship, Part 1

Deuteronomy 12:1-28

1. Last semester we saw that the law is divided into two tables. The first table of the law addresses love of God and includes commandments 1-4. List below the first 4 commandments that are found in Deuteronomy 5:7-15.

*

*

*

*

2. As we begin the second half of the book of Deuteronomy, Moses begins to expound on these first four commandments and how the people will love the Lord their God through their worship. Read Deuteronomy 12:1-28.
3. Focus your attention on verses 1-7.

How are the people to do these commandments (v.1)?

Where are they to do these commandments (v.1)?

How long are they to do these commandments (v.1)?

4. In verses 2-3 what are the people commanded to do?

Why do you think God required this?

5. In what way are the people NOT to worship God (v.4)? Be specific.

6. Instead, verse 5 says they are called to "_____ the _____ that the _____ your _____ will _____ out of all your tribes to _____ and _____ there."

In what way are they TO worship God (vv.5-7)?

7. Read verses 8-14. How are the people of Israel currently living (v. 8)?

What reason does Moses give for the way in which they are living (v.9)?

8. Once they cross over the Jordan and the Lord gives them rest, what are they commanded to do (vv. 10-11)?

Where was "this place" to be located?

What are they to bring to this place? List in the space below.

What are they to do in this place (v. 12)?

Who is included in this activity? List all in the space below.

9. Look up the word "rejoice" in the dictionary. In the space provided, write 3 synonyms for "rejoice."

In light of what it means to rejoice, what does God want from His people in worship?

10. When it comes to the worship of the Lord, who is it that defines the terms of worship according to these verses?

- ☐ The people of Israel
- ☐ Moses
- ☐ The Lord

11. Read verses 13-14. What are the people to take care not to do? Why?

What are they to do instead?

Application: Does God still define the terms for worship today? Why or why not?

When you think about the worship of our Lord, do you think more about worship according to your terms (how you want to worship) or worship according to God's terms (how He wants to be worshiped)?

How do we discern the difference between our desires in worship and God's desires for worship?

12. Read Deuteronomy 12:15-19. What are the people permitted to do within their towns?

Who is permitted to do this? _____

What is the difference between what they can do in their towns and what is exclusive to the place of the Lord's choosing?

13. What are they not permitted to eat (v. 16)? _____

What are they to do with this prohibited portion?

What do you think the reason is for this? (See Deuteronomy 12:23-25 and Leviticus 17:10-12 to help with your answer.)

14. Back in Deuteronomy 12, what distinction is the Lord making in His permission and prohibitions regarding foods?

15. Verse 18 says they are to "rejoice before the LORD your God in all that you undertake." What does this mean?

16. Who are they to be careful not to neglect (v.19)? _____

What is the reason for this? (See Deuteronomy 14:27.)

17. Read Deuteronomy 12:20-28. In these verses, Moses further explains verses 15-19. What reason does he give for the Lord's gracious permission to eat meat whenever you desire (vv. 20-22)?

18. What does the repetition of the commands to not eat the blood or to not worship in the way of our choosing teach us about God and His view of worship?

19. What does verse 28 teach about obedience to God's Word?

Does this mean that obedience to God's Word will guarantee a life without hardship? Why or why not?

Application: Do you tend to have the mindset that if you are obedient to God's Word that all will go well with you and you won't suffer hardship?

Do you think this mindset is biblical? Why or why not?

How has your understanding of the phrase "that it may go well with you" changed through the study of Deuteronomy so far?

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 2 Notes: Laws Concerning Worship, Part 1

Deuteronomy 12:1-28

Week 3: Laws Concerning Worship, Part 2

Deuteronomy 12:29-13:18

Let this be your prayer this week:

Your Word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to keep your righteous rules.
I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O Lord, according to Your Word!
Accept my freewill offerings of praise, O Lord,
and teach me your rules.
I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.
The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.
Your testimonies are my heritage forever,
for they are the joy of my heart.
I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.
~Psalm 119:105-112~

Week 3: Laws Concerning Worship, Part 2

Deuteronomy 12:29-13:18

Last week we learned about God's prescription for the worship of Him. How we worship God matters. This week we continue with the theme of worship...with the emphasis on worshipping God and God alone.

1. Read Deuteronomy 12:29-13:18. Summarize in your own words the main idea of this passage.
2. Focus your attention on Deuteronomy 12:29-31. What promise of the Lord is found in verse 29?
3. What specifically are the Israelites warned against doing in verses 30-31?
4. Look up the word "ensnare" in the dictionary. Write the definition in the space provided.

In light of the meaning of this word, what are we to learn about the nature of idolatry?

5. Why are they not to worship or serve the Lord in the way of the Canaanites (v. 31)?

6. Read Deuteronomy 12:32 and fill in the blanks.

"_____ that I command you, you shall be _____
_____. You shall NOT _____ to it or _____ it."

7. What does verse 32 reveal about what will keep the people of Israel from worshiping other gods and/or serving God in the way of the pagan people?

Application: In what ways might we be ensnared to worship other gods today?

In what ways might we be ensnared to worship and serve God in ungodly ways?

How ought we to fight against being ensnared?

8. In Deuteronomy 13:1-18, Moses gives 3 potential ensnarements that could arise to lead the people of Israel away from obeying Deuteronomy 12:32 and into idolatry. What are the three potential ensnarements?

★

★

★

9. Look closely at Deuteronomy 13:1-5. The first potential ensnarement is prophets or dreamers. What does Moses say about the prophesy of these men? Circle one:

the prophecy comes true

the prophecy does not come true

Why is this detail important? (Read Deuteronomy 18:22 to help you with your answer.)

What detail does Moses give in 13:2b that will discredit the prophet?

Why does this discredit a prophet even if his prophesy were to come true?

10. What response are the people called to have in this particular situation (v. 3a)?

Why are they to respond in this way (v. 3b)?

What is God's purpose in testing his people in this way (v. 3b)?

11. How is God's purpose revealed through this type of test (v. 4)?

12. What is to become of a prophet or dreamer that seeks to lead the people of God into idolatry and what is the reason for this (v. 5)?

What does the severity of this sentence reveal to us about how God views idolatry and those who would lead people into such sin?

Application: Thinking about our own cultural context, how might we be ensnared into idolatry by a false prophet? Can you think of a time in your life when you were led astray by false teaching that further led you into idolatry?

How did you come to the place of realization and repentance?

How ought we discern between a false prophet and a true prophet? By what standard do we judge?

13. The second ensnarement is family and friendship. Read through Deuteronomy 13:6-11. Why would family/friendship lend itself to be an ensnarement that could potentially lead a person into idolatry?

What words are used to describe the insidious nature of this ensnarement (v. 6)?

14. What 5 things does the Lord require you NOT to do to such a person?

*

*

*

*

*

15. What does the Lord require of such a person (vv. 9-10)?

What is the reason God requires this?

16. What is the purpose of handling the situation in this way according to verse 11?

17. Look up Luke 14:26. Write the verse in the space provided.

How is Jesus' teaching consistent with Deuteronomy's teaching about choosing God over family?

Application: How might love of your family supersede your love of God?

How might love of your family over God lead you to disobey God's word?

How would loving God primarily and centrally help you to love your family rightly?

18. The final example of a potential ensnarement is found in Deuteronomy 13:12-18. Read through these verses again. How does Moses describe those who would lead others into idolatry (v. 13)?

How do they go about leading others into idolatry?

Who are they leading into idolatry?

19. What are the Israelites to do if they hear of such a thing happening in one of the cities in their land (v. 14)?

If the report is true, what is to happen next (vv. 15-16)?

What will be the result of their obedience to the Lord (v. 17)?

What is the clarifying action that precedes the result shown in verse 17 (v. 18)?

20. The penalty for idolatry is severe. What does the severity of the penalty reveal about the nature of the sin of idolatry?

What does the severity of the penalty reveal about God and His view of idolatry?

Application: What is your response to the severity of the penalty for idolatry?

What does your response indicate about you and your views of idolatry?

How does your view of idolatry line up with God's view of idolatry?

Spend some time in prayer, asking God to help you see the sin of idolatry in your own life in the way that He does, and to give you the strength and the power by His Spirit to seek to destroy the idols that hold your heart!

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 3 Notes: Laws Concerning Worship, Part 2

Deuteronomy 12:29-13:18

Week 4: Holy to The LORD

Deuteronomy 14:1-16:17

Let this be your prayer this week:

I hate the double-minded,
but I love your law.
You are my hiding place and my shield;
I hope in your word.
Depart from me, you evildoers,
that I may keep the commandments of my God.
Uphold me according to your promise, that I may
live, and let me not be put to shame in my hope!
Hold me up, that I may be safe
and have regard for your statutes continually!
You spurn all who go astray from your statutes,
for their cunning is in vain.
All the wicked of the earth you discard like
dross, therefore I love your testimonies.
My flesh trembles for fear of you,
and I am afraid of your judgments.
~Psalm 119:113-120~

Week 4: Holy to The LORD

Deuteronomy 14:1-16:17

1. Read chapters 14, 15, and 16:1-17 in its entirety. Then write a brief summary of what you think these passages are about.

2. Reread 14:1-21. What does Moses call the children of Israel (v.1)?

Why does he say this? (Look up Exodus 4:22-23 for help with your answer.)

3. In light of who Israel is, what are they not to do (v. 1b)?

Can you think of why the Lord would prohibit these particular actions?

4. Look at Deuteronomy 14:2 and list the other descriptors Moses uses regarding the people.

In light of those descriptors, what are the people to refrain from doing according to verse 3a?

5. In verses 3-21 God separates "meat" for the people of Israel into categories. Carefully read through these verses and put each animal in the appropriate column.

Foods Forbidden	Foods Permitted

6. The last sentence in verse 21 is a familiar statement that we don't understand. Write the last sentence in verse 21 here. Then write your thoughts on why this instruction is given at this point in the passage.

What do you think the Lord is seeking to teach his people through these food regulations?

What other purpose might God have for these commandments to his people? (See Deuteronomy 4:5-8 to help with your answer.)

7. Review Deuteronomy 14:1-21. Who or what is being set apart as holy to the Lord?

Application: Read 1 Peter 2:9-11 and answer the following questions:

Who is Peter speaking to in this passage?

☐ Israel

☐ Believers

☐ Both

How is Peter's description similar to the passage in Deuteronomy?

How is Peter's description different to the passage in Deuteronomy?

Application: Read 1 Peter 2:12. In light of 1 Peter 2:9-11 how then are we to be different from the culture that surrounds us?

In what ways does this holy living give glory to God?

8. Read Deuteronomy 14:22-29. What is being addressed in this portion of Scripture?

Look up the word "tithe" in the dictionary. Write the definition in the space below.

9. There are three tithes in the Old Testament Law.

The first tithe is commanded in Numbers 18:21-23. For whom is this tithe?

Leviticus 27:30-33 defines what this tithe consists of. Look up this passage and write in the space below what they are to tithe?

10. The second tithe is commanded in Deuteronomy 14:22-27. Read through this portion of Scripture and answer the following questions:

What is to be tithed (v. 22)?

How often is it to be given (v. 22)?

Where is it to be given (v. 23)?

What are they to do with the tithe once they arrive (v. 26b)?

Who benefits from this particular tithe?

11. The third tithe is found in Deuteronomy 14:28-29. Read these verses and answer the following questions:

How often is this tithe given?

What is to be tithed?

Who is the beneficiary of this tithe?

12. Let's do some math.

What is the percent of the first tithe per year? _____

What is the percent of the second tithe per year? _____

What is the percent of the third tithe per year? _____

What is the total annual tithe required per year? _____

13. What is the Lord teaching His people through this command?

Which of the Ten Commandments addresses this particular command?

14. Review Deuteronomy 14:22-29. Who or what is being set apart as holy to the Lord?

Application: How does Jesus deepen and widen this commandment of tithing for Christians today? (See 2 Corinthians 9:6-11.)

15. Read Deuteronomy 15. What is the subject of this chapter? (Read Leviticus 25:1-7 for help with your answer.)

In light of the subject of this chapter, of which of the Ten Commandments does this chapter expand our understanding?

16. In verses 1-6, specifically what is to be released at the end of this year?

To whom does this release apply?

☐ Fellow Israelites ☐ Foreigners (non-Israelites) ☐ Both

What reason does the Lord have for this command?

What does this reveal about God?

17. In verse 6 what are they not to do?

Why?

18. Read verses 7-11. Who are these verses referring to?

☐ Fellow Israelites ☐ Foreigners (non-Israelites) ☐ Both

Look back to verse 4. What does it say that the Lord desires for the land of Israel?

What does verse 11 say about the reality? Why is the reality different from what the Lord says He desires?

In light of the reality of poverty, what specifically are they commanded not to do in verses 7 and 9?

What are they commanded to do in verses 8, 10, and 11?

19. Read through verses 12-18. What is being commanded to be released in this year?

What are they to do if the person desires not to be released?

20. Read Deuteronomy 15:19-23. Check all that are correct.

- ☐ Firstborn male of the herd and flock shall be dedicated to the Lord.
- ☐ Any male or female of the herd and flock shall be dedicated to the Lord.
- ☐ The offering is given after you have worked the animal and sheared him.
- ☐ The offering has not been worked or sheared.
- ☐ The offering can be blemished.
- ☐ The offering is to be completely without blemish.

What are they commanded to do with the offering set apart to the Lord?

Where are they to do this?

Who is able to do this?

What are they to do with the blood? Why?

Application: We have meditated on God's command for a Sabbath Year and all that was to happen in that year. What are the ways that this year in particular pointed to the work of the Messiah when He would come?

21. Read Deuteronomy 16:1-17. In this passage the Lord set apart three festivals for the people to participate in. Fill in the chart below with the details for each festival.

	Verses 1-8:	Verses 9-12:	Verses 13-17:
	_____	_____	_____
Who is to celebrate?			
When is it to be celebrated?			
Where is it to be celebrated?			
How is it to be celebrated?			
Reason for this celebration:			

22. Re-read verses 16-17. What additional details do we learn in these verses that we may not have seen in verses 1-15?

How are they to give?

Application: God weaves within His commands the opportunity for His people to rejoice and to celebrate Him and His work in their lives. What are ways that we can intentionally celebrate God's work today?

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 4 Notes: Holy to the Lord

Deuteronomy 14:1-16:17

Week 5: Love Justice & Mercy

Deuteronomy 16:18-18:22

Let this be your prayer this week:

I have done what is
just and right; do not leave me
to my oppressors.
Give your servant a pledge of good;
let not the insolent oppress me.
My eyes long for your salvation
and for the fulfillment of your righteous promise.
Deal with your servant according to your
steadfast love, and teach me your statutes.
I am your servant; give me understanding,
that I may know your testimonies!
It is time for the Lord to act,
for your law has been broken.
Therefore I love your commandments
above gold, above fine gold.
Therefore I consider all your precepts
to be right; I hate every false way.
~Psalm 119:121-128~

Week 5: Love Justice & Mercy

Deuteronomy 16:18-18:22

Last week we saw that the Lord our God is a holy God and His people are to be a holy people. They are to behave in holy ways. And in so doing fulfill the command to love God with all their hearts. This week we will look at those who are called to lead the people of God. What are they to be and how are they to act?

1. Read Deuteronomy 16:18-18:22 and summarize this week's passage in 3-4 sentences.

2. Re-read Deuteronomy 16:18-20 and answer the following questions.

What does the Lord command the people of Israel to appoint?

Where are these to be appointed?

According to what are these to be appointed?

What are these leaders appointed to do?

How are they to carry out this task?

3. According the verses 19-20, what is and what is not righteous judgment?

4. Look up the following words in a dictionary and write the definitions in the space provided:

*Pervert -

*Justice -

*Partiality -

*Bribe -

*Subvert -

5. How does partiality pervert justice?

In what ways could a bribe subvert the cause of the righteous?

6. What one and only thing must these leaders follow?

How and where will they know what is truly just?

Application:The word "justice" is a commonly used word in our world today but the meaning of justice is not always consistent. We do have a God who is just in all His ways and His people are called to live lives that are just. How can we discern the difference between biblical justice and a counterfeit justice that is offered in the world?

7. Read Deuteronomy 16:21-17:7. How might these verses be connected to Deuteronomy 16:18-20?

What is being forbidden in these verses?

Why is it forbidden?

8. What are the leaders to do FIRST if they hear that someone has transgressed the covenant by serving and worshiping other gods?

How many witnesses must there be to bring an accusation against a person?

What is to happen if the rumor proves to be true?

In light of the seriousness of the offense as well as the punishment if found guilty, why is it important that the Lord has established that the leaders of Israel be ruling with justice and justice alone?

9. Which of the Ten Commandments would come into play in these verses (list all that would apply).

10. Read Deuteronomy 17:8-13. What potential difficulty for the leaders is addressed in these verses?

The decision of the judges and priests in the place of the Lord's choosing is:

- ☐ A suggestion that can be disregarded depending on the situation
- ☐ A ruling to be obeyed completely

11. What is to happen if the ruling is disregarded according to verse 12?

Why is the penalty so severe (vv. 12-13)?

12. Read verses 14-20. Why will Israel desire a king in the future?

Is this a good reason to desire a king? Explain your answer.

13. According to verses 14-17 what are the qualifications for a king of Israel (choose all that apply)?

- ☐ Must have wealth and status
- ☐ Must have strong leadership skills
- ☐ Must be a man of God's choosing
- ☐ Must be elected by a majority vote by the people
- ☐ Must be a national Israelite
- ☐ Must not gather many horses or much wealth for himself
- ☐ Must not lead the people back to Egypt
- ☐ Must have strong negotiating skills and make treaties with the other nations
- ☐ Must not acquire many wives for himself

14. What is the first thing the king is to do when he ascends his throne?

Why is this significant?

15. According to verse 19, what three things is he to do with this copy?

*

*

*

What does verse 20 teach will be the result of doing this with the law?

*

*

*

What does this teach us about the most important asset a person could have in order to lead and live with righteous judgement?

16. As we have reflected on God's design for leadership, think through the biblical narrative. Think about the book of Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings. Overall, did those who were priests, judges, and kings in Israel obey God's commands in the way that they led?

Why or why not? (Read 2 Kings 21:8-9 to help with your answer.)

Application: If we today treated the Bible with the same importance that Israel's king was to do, by reading it and meditating on it day after day and obeying it even when it costs us, how would we be different people?

How different would our churches be?

What reasons do we give for not living out these particular verses?

17. Read Deuteronomy 18:1-8. The inheritance for each of the tribes of Israel is a portion of land with the exception of the tribe of Levites.

Who are the Levites according to verse 1? _____

For some context, where would the Levites live? (See Numbers 35:1-8 for clues.)

What was the responsibility of the priests in Israel? (See Deuteronomy 33:8-11.)

18. Who or what is to be the inheritance of the Levites (18:3)?

How does the Lord provide for the physical needs of the Levites (vv. 3-8)?

Application: In 1 Peter 2:9, Peter calls the believers a royal priesthood. In light of what we have learned about the Levites, what is significant about being a royal priesthood?

19. Read Deuteronomy 18:9-14. Once again it appears that the text takes a turn in a different direction. However, let's see if we can find a connection between this section and the section that came before. What could be the connection between verses 1-8 and verses 9-14?

20. List everything forbidden in verses 9-14.

21. Look the following words in a dictionary and write in their definitions:

*divination -

*omen -

*sorcery -

*charmer -

*medium -

*necromancer -

What are all these things in the eyes of the Lord?

22. What do we learn in verse 14 about the nations that the people of Israel are dispossessing of the land?

Why are the people of Israel forbidden to do these things? What clues do verses 1-8 and 15-22 give you as to why this is forbidden?

Application: What might this list of abominations found in verses 10-11 look like in today's culture?

How might we be subtly guilty of these sins?

23. Read verses 15-22. Who does the Lord God promise to raise up amongst the people?

Write out a description of him according to verses 15-19.

Whose words will be in the prophet's mouth? _____

What is to be the response to this prophet?

24. How are people to discern whether a prophet is true or counterfeit (vv. 20-22)?

How will people determine whether a particular prophet is THE prophet spoken of here in verse 15?

25. Keeping a marker in Deuteronomy 18, look up and read John 12:44-50. Now answer the following questions:

In Deuteronomy 18:18, whose words will the prophet speak?

In John 12:49-50, whose words does Jesus speak?

In Deuteronomy 18:19, what will happen to the person who does not listen to the words of the prophet?

In John 12:47-48, what will happen to the person who does not listen to Jesus?

Specifically, who will do this?

How does John 12:44-50 help us better understand Deuteronomy 18:15-22?

Application: Do you believe that Jesus is the prophet promised in Deuteronomy 18:15-22? Why or why not?

Spend some time in prayer and reflection about how well you are listening to the words of Jesus. Where do you need to repent? In what areas of your life are you ignoring His voice?

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 5 Notes: Love Justice and Mercy

Deuteronomy 16:18-18:22

Week 6: Love Your Neighbor, Part 1

Deuteronomy 19-22

Let this be your prayer this week:

Your testimonies
are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.
The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.
I open my mouth and pant,
because I long for your commandments.
Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your way with those who love your name.
Keep steady my steps according to your promise,
and let no iniquity get dominion over me.
Redeem me from man's oppression,
that I may keep your precepts.
Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people
do not keep your law.
~Psalm 119:129-136~

Week 6: Love Your Neighbor, Part 1

Deuteronomy 19-22

As we take a deep dive into the expanded Law of God, we will be confronting confusing and sometimes disturbing details. We need to approach this with humility and keep in mind the purpose of these laws, which is addressed in the following quote by Paul David Tripp in his book, Do You Believe?

"Human beings need boundaries... God's boundaries, that is, his laws, are an expression of his love for us. They protect us from danger and draw us toward a deeper dependency and communion with him. God graces us with his law.

"Think about when God first gave his law on Mount Sinai. God... had just redeemed Israel out of their four-hundred-year travail in Egypt... But his children had a huge and potentially destructive problem. Because they had been in slavery for so many generations, they had no idea how to live. So God gave them his civil, ceremonial, and moral law. These laws were given to his children as a sign of his love and grace. The law organized their lives, shaped their worship, protected their hearts, structured their relationships with their neighbors, and provided a legal system. But most of all, it protected the Israelites from themselves. God's law was one of the primary ways God protected and preserved his people."

Every nation had laws governing its people and processes. But God's Laws, specifically the Ten Commandments, "were unique in ancient law in that they contained the simple injunction or prohibition without reference to specific cases. They set forth principles which are always binding and which must always be strictly observed because they are right." (An Historical Survey of the Old Testament, by Eugene H. Merrill, pg. 130.)

What we see in our study in Weeks 6 & 7 is an expanded view of the law. These laws, found here in Deuteronomy 19-25, are, according to Merrill, more "specific laws dealing with individual cases which might come up." All nations had these types of laws, though Israel's laws were given to Moses by divine inspiration and were superior in moral and spiritual tones.

1. Read Deuteronomy 19 from start to finish. Are these laws in addition to the Ten Commandments, or do they fall under them?

2. Re-read verses 1-3. When Israel goes in to fight the nations and possess their land, who is ultimately responsible for their success? _____

How many cities are to be set apart in the land? _____

Who are the cities to be set apart for? _____

Why did God tell Israel to set apart these cities? (Hint: see Deuteronomy 4:41-42.)

3. "Distances" refer to roads in 19:3. How was Israel supposed to divide up the land and set apart three cities? Describe it below.

4. Read verses 4-7. What is the ultimate reason for a manslayer to flee to one of these cities (v. 4a)?

What is the important clarifier that differentiates between a manslayer and a murderer?

Describe the example given to Israel of a manslayer fleeing to one of the cities (vv. 4b-6). List as many details as you find.

Which of the Ten Commandments would this statute fall under?

Who is this law protecting from sin? Explain your answer.

5. Read verses 8-10. Under what circumstances would three more cities be added?

What curse or consequence would fall on the people if they did not do this (v. 10)?

Read Joshua 20:7-9. What cities does Israel eventually set up in this way as places of refuge for the innocent?

6. In verses 11-13, we see that God knew people would try to take advantage of these cities. What were the elders supposed to do if this happened? Describe in your own words the events in these verses and how it might unfold.

Who do you think is the avenger of blood? Is there someone today we can compare them to?

7. What should be the attitude of Israel toward the person who is guilty (v. 13)?

Why are they to take this position against the person?

Application: What do these instructions about the cities of refuge reveal about God and His character?

Do these truths laid out in this passage of Scripture have meaning in our cultural context today? Why or why not?

8. Read verse 14. Which of the Ten Commandments is this verse addressing? Explain why the instruction here is a violation of that commandment.

What is meant by the landmark "which the men of old have set"? (For clues, read this verse in other translations.)

9. Read verses 15-21. According to verse 15, how many witnesses were required for someone to be considered guilty of a crime? _____

Why is this important?

How were the people to discern between a true and a false witness according to verses 16-18?

Who were charges brought before in Israel? Name all the parties listed.

What is the consequence for bearing false witness? Why is this a just consequence?

10. Fill in the blanks for verse 21 here: "Your eye shall not _____. It shall be _____ for _____, _____ for _____, _____ for _____, _____ for _____, _____ for _____."

How does this verse regulate the consequence for bearing false witness?

Application: How do you see false witness permeate our society today? Our churches? Our lives?

How do we today inquire diligently in order to discern whether what we're hearing is a true or a false witness?

11. Read Deuteronomy 20 in its entirety. What is this chapter describing?

12. Re-read verses 1-9. How are the people supposed to approach going to war against their enemies? Check all that apply.

- ☐ With horses & chariots and weapons of war
- ☐ With fear and trembling
- ☐ With boldness

Explain why you chose your answer.

Describe how the enemy army is equipped for battle (v. 1).

13. In verses 2-4, the priest addresses and encourages Israel as they draw near to battle. Complete the chart below:

What the priest says about God	What the priest says to the people

Why is it important for the people of Israel to remember these things?

14. In verses 5-9, we see the officers give the soldiers a chance to go home before going into battle. List the 3 exemptions given for why one can go back home.

*

*

*

What is the risk in war that is the underlying reason for these 3 exemptions?

15. There is a 4th scenario giving exemption for going into battle. What is it (v. 8)?

What is the reason for this exemption?

After all of the people who take an exemption go home, what happens next (v. 9)?

Read Judges 7:1-8. How do you see these instructions reiterated in this passage?

What is the result of following God's commands according to Judges 7:7?

16. Read Deuteronomy 20:10-15. Summarize these verses in your own words.

Look up Psalm 84:10. How does this verse give us insight into what could be involved in these terms of peace?

Application: In today's culture, the term "forced labor" carries a very negative context. But we need to resist putting our cultural context on Scripture and onto their cultural context. How is mercy demonstrated in what is taught in Deuteronomy 20:11, especially in light of Psalm 84:10?

17. Israel was to follow these instructions from Deuteronomy 20:10-14 for a specific group of cities. What do you think is meant by the phrase "cities that are very far from you" (v. 15)?

18. Read verses 16-18. These are instructions for a different set of cities.

Fill in the blank from verse 16: "But in the _____ of these _____ that the LORD your God is giving _____ for an _____, you shall save alive _____ that breathes."

Specifically, what is the name of the land of promise? _____

How many people groups are listed here? _____

What is Israel to do with these cities (v. 17)?

Why are they to follow these instructions for these cities (v. 18)?

19. Read verses 19-20. What commands are the people given in these verses?

Why would this be significant?

Application: What do these laws concerning war teach you about the mercies and judgment of God?

20. Read Deuteronomy 21:1-23.

Re-read verses 1-9 and summarize the situation surrounding an unsolved murder.

How is the unsolved murder atoned for?

Look up the definition of "atonement." How does this broaden your understanding of what is happening here in these verses?

How does this support the commandment, "You shall not kill"?

21. Read verses 10-14 and summarize them.

Go back and read Deuteronomy 7:1-4. Who were the people not to marry?

If 22:10-14 allows for marriage to a female slave, what would this reveal about where she came from?

Re-read 20:14. Do you think the female slave could have come from a city outside of Canaan? Why or why not?

What commandment(s) are related to this passage?

22. Read verses 15-17 and summarize the instructions given here.

What commandment(s) are related to these verses?

23. Read verses 18-21. Does the action taken against a stubborn and rebellious son seem right and merited? Do you feel that it is an overreaction? Why or why not?

What commandment is being addressed in this passage?

What do these instructions say about the seriousness of this sin?

24. Read verses 22-23 and summarize the statutes given here.

Why would allowing a man to stay hanged on a tree longer than one day be considered a desecration of the land?

Focus on the phrase "for a hanged man is cursed by God." To whom does this phrase point to in the New Testament? (Read Galatians 3:11-14 for clues.)

Application: What do the statutes in chapter 21 reveal about God?

How do these statutes preserve and protect Israel?

25. Read Deuteronomy 22.

Re-read verse 1-12. In the following chart, identify which table of the law and which commandment is associated with each set of verses in this section. Write in the specific commandment you feel fits. The first one has been done for you.

	Love God	Love neighbor
vv. 1-4		You shall not steal.
v. 5		
vv. 6-7		
v. 8		

	Love God	Love neighbor
vv. 9-11		
v. 12 See Numbers 15:37-41		

26. Fill in the chart below from verses 1-12 again, noting what each law reveals about God and then a contemporary application of each law.

	What it reveals about God	A contemporary application of this law
vv. 1-4		
v. 5		
vv. 6-7		
v. 8		
vv. 9-11		
v. 12		

27. Read verses 13-21. Summarize what's being addressed in this passage.

What are the 2 commandments that are related to this statute?

How is God protecting women in ancient Israel here?

Application: Does this passage have any application today? If so, explain.

28. Read each of the verses below and write in how each statute promotes the purity and sanctity of marriage:

*verse 22 -

*verses 23-24 -

*verses 25-27 -

*verses 28-29 -

*verse 30 -

How would these laws inform the Israelite's view of sexual purity and marriage?

Application: How ought these statutes inform our view of sexual purity and the sanctity of marriage today?

What do these statutes about sexual immorality reveal to us about God?

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 6 Notes: Love Your Neighbor, Part 1

Deuteronomy 19-22

Week 7: Love Your Neighbor, Part 2

Deuteronomy 23-25

Let this be your prayer this week:

Righteous are you,
O Lord,
and right are your rules.
You have appointed your testimonies in
righteousness and in all faithfulness.
My zeal consumes me,
because my foes forget your words.
Your promise is well tried,
and your servant loves it.
I am small and despised,
yet I do not forget your precepts.
Your righteousness is righteous forever,
and your law is true.
Trouble and anguish have found me out,
but your commandments are my delight.
Your testimonies are righteous forever;
give me understanding
that I may live.
~Psalm 119:137-144~

Week 7: Love Your Neighbor, Part 2

Deuteronomy 23-25

We continue to look into the expanded Law of God this week. We need to remember the purpose for which God gave the law to His people. Look back to page 54 to refresh your memory before you dive into the next section of the expanded law.

Historically, theologians have made a distinction between moral laws, civil laws, and ceremonial laws.

The ceremonial laws bind Israel's worship at the temple, civil laws bind the state of Israel for its administration of justice, and moral laws bind Israel to the moral law of God. A helpful way to look at any law in the Bible is to ask, "What category does it fit in?" If it's part of the moral law, we're still bound to it. (Robert Godfrey, Ligonier Ministries)

1. Read Deuteronomy 23-25 in its entirety.
2. Re-read 23:1-8 both in the ESV and NIV translations.

List all those excluded from the assembly of the Lord and the reasons for their exclusion, if given, in the space provided.

3. To better understand the meaning of "the assembly of the LORD," look up the following verses and note what each says:

*Deuteronomy 5:22 -

*Deuteronomy 9:10 -

*Deuteronomy 31:30 -

After reading these verses, what do you understand is meant by "the assembly of the Lord" and what would it mean to be excluded from this assembly?

Why do you think God would exclude certain people from the gathered assembly?

4. Look up the following passages of Scripture and write what each has to say about a person's inclusion/exclusion in the assembly of the Lord:

*Isaiah 56:3-5 -

*Isaiah 56:6-7 -

What do you observe about the eunuchs and the foreigners that allows them inclusion into the assembly?

Comparing these Isaiah passages with our text in Deuteronomy, where do you see God's mercy demonstrated here in the midst of judgment?

5. How were the Israelites to treat an Edomite and an Egyptian?

What is the reason for this?

Why is this significant? Read Deuteronomy 10:18-19 to help with your answer.

6. Read Deuteronomy 23:9-14 in both the ESV and NIV.

Keeping in mind the command in verse 9, what does the Lord require regarding decency and cleanliness in verses 10-14?

Why was Israel required to follow these procedures? What might it say about God's holiness?

What might God's laws regarding cleanliness reveal to us about God's goodness in the life of His people?

7. Read Deuteronomy 23:15-25. Organize the various statutes in this passage according to the commandment(s) that best fits. Explain why you chose this commandment.

Statutes	Which commandment fits?	Your Explanation
Verses 15-16		
Verses 17-18		
Verses 19-20		

Statutes	Which commandment fits?	Your Explanation
Verses 21-23		
Verses 24-25		

Application: How do you see God's protection of His people in these statutes?

What principles do you see reflected in God's protection of His people?

How can we apply these principles reflected in these statutes to our context today?

8. Read Deuteronomy 24:1-4 in the ESV and NIV. Which of the commandments does this statute connect to?

What is this statute seeking to promote?

What is this statute seeking to prohibit?

Read Matthew 19:1-12. How does Jesus' teaching give us insight into the reason for Deuteronomy 24:1-4?

How does Jesus' teaching on marriage deepen our understanding of God's design for marriage?

9. Read Deuteronomy 24:5-5:5. We are given a few more miscellaneous laws. Keep in mind the three distinctions of the law of God: moral, civil, ceremonial. Mark in the space below the category under which the statute best fits and which of the Ten Commandments most aptly applies. The first one is completed for you.

Verses for each regulation	Moral Law	Civil Law	Ceremonial Law	Which commandment(s)
24:1-4	X			Don't commit adultery
v. 5				
v. 6				
v. 7				
vv. 8-9				
vv. 10-13				
vv. 14-15				
v. 16				
vv. 17-18				
vv. 19-22				
25:1-3				
v. 4				

Application: How do you see God's character reflected in these statutes?

How is God's character reflected in the guidelines and boundaries that we follow in the church today?

10. Read Deuteronomy 25:5-10. Summarize the statutes given in these verses.

Some of our Bibles use the heading "Laws Concerning Levirate Marriage." Look up the word "levirate" and write the definition here.

Do you see this statute as compulsory or protective? Explain your answer.

What would be God's purpose for this statute?

Under which category of the Mosaic Law does this statute fall?

☐ Civil Law

☐ Moral Law

☐ Ceremonial Law

From which of the Ten Commandments does this statute expand?

11. Read Deuteronomy 25:11-19. Next to each verse, write what you believe is the foundational principle from the Ten Commandments that is underneath each command.

*verses 11-12 -

*verses 13-16 -

*verses 17-19 -

12. What have you seen in these statutes as God's provision and protection for His people?

Application: As you've studied these laws and regulations given to the people of God from the past, how has your understanding of the Law of God changed?

How will this new understanding impact your own life today?

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 7 Notes: Love Your Neighbor, Part 2

Deuteronomy 23-25

Week 8: When You Enter the Land

Deuteronomy 26-28

Let this be your prayer this week:

With my whole heart I cry;
answer me, O LORD!
I will keep your statutes.
I call to you; save me,
that I may observe your testimonies.
I rise before dawn and cry for help;
I hope in your words.
My eyes are awake before the watches of the night,
that I may meditate on your promise.
Hear my voice according to your steadfast love;
O LORD, according to your justice give me life.
They draw near who persecute me with evil purpose;
they are far from your law.
But you are near, O LORD,
and all your commandments are true.
Long have I known from your testimonies
that you have founded them forever.
~Psalm 119:145-152~

Week 8: When You Enter the Land

Deuteronomy 26-28

1. Moses is about to give instructions concerning one of the 3 tithes that we studied back in Deuteronomy 14. Turn back there and read verses 28-29 to refresh your memory about this tithe. Write in the space below what you know about this tithe.

2. Read Deuteronomy 26 in its entirety. Then re-read verses 1-4. Put the following list of actions into the correct sequence as they are found in this passage.

Priest takes your basket

1) _____

Take possession of the land

2) _____

Go to the place the LORD chooses

3) _____

Go to the priest

4) _____

Live in the land

5) _____

Put harvested fruit in a basket

6) _____

Come into the land

7) _____

Say your declaration to the priest

8) _____

Priest sets basket before the altar

9) _____

Take firstfruits of your harvest

10) _____

3. Read verse 3 again. What would be the purpose of making this statement?

4. Read verses 5-11. What does Moses say shall be made before the LORD?

Look up the word "response" and write the definition that best fits.

Who is the person responding to? And what is the person responding to? Be specific.

5. Who is the "wandering Aramean"? Look up Genesis 28:1-5 for clues.

How is the wandering Aramean connected to the person speaking the response?

6. Read verses 5-11 again, noting the verbal response to be made before the LORD. Essentially what is to be said?

What would this statement raise up in the heart of the one saying it?

What does verse 10 tell us the person bringing the tithe would then do?

What does verse 11 tell us the person bringing the tithe would do?

Who is included in the response in verse 11?

7. Read Psalm 71:15-19. How do the words penned by the psalmist years later connect to the passage we read in Deuteronomy 26?

Application: How often do you reflect on what God has done for you in a way that brings you to a place of worship and rejoicing before the LORD? If it's been a long time, pause now and consider what great things He has done on your behalf, giving thanks to your Father in heaven.

What are some practices you use to proclaim His wondrous deeds today?

8. Read Deuteronomy 26:12-14 and summarize in your own words the confession that the presenter of the tithe needs to say before the LORD.

Is this a confession that essentially says "I haven't sinned"? Yes or No (circle one)

If yes, is it possible that someone could say those words and be truthful? Why or why not?

If no, how do you come to that conclusion?

9. Look up and read 1 John 1:8 and 1 John 2:3. After reading these verses, do you think the confession made in our Deuteronomy passage comes from a place of pride or humility? Explain your answer.

10. Now read Deuteronomy 26:15. What is the request made of the LORD?

On what does the person asking this base his request? Choose one:

- ☐ Man's perfect obedience to the law
- ☐ God's perfect faithfulness to His Word
- ☐ Living in a perfect land flowing with milk and honey

Moses is nearing the end of this sermon to the people as they are poised to enter the promised land. He is finished re-telling their history and reviewing the Law of God. He draws their attention back to the present and to their commitment to walk in God's ways.

11. Read verses 16-19. What are the specific charges Moses gives to the people? Underline the action in each charge that Moses gives.

*

*

*

*

*

What does Moses remind the people that the LORD God says about them?

*

*

*

12. Look up the words "treasured" and "possession" and write the definitions here:

In light of these definitions, rewrite verse 18 in your own words.

What bearing does being God's treasured possession have on the charge to keep His commandments? Why?

Application: Many today feel that Christians no longer need to keep the commandments because they are in the Old Testament. Read 1 John 2:4-6. How do you understand the charge to keep the commandments after reading this New Testament passage?

13. Read chapter 27 in its entirety. Then go back to verse 1. What is the very first charge that Moses gives the people?

Who else is giving this charge to the people? _____

14. Re-read verses 2-8.

What are the people to do as soon as they cross the Jordan River (vv. 2-3)?

Where are they to do this (v. 4)? _____

What else are they to do at that place (v. 5)? _____

What are they required to use (v. 6)? _____

Why would this be required? (See Exodus 20:25 for a clue.)

Look up the word "profane." How does this definition broaden your understanding of God's instructions regarding His altar?

Application: How do you see the worship of the LORD God profaned in the church in today's culture?

15. What 4 things are the people to do after they have built the altar (vv. 6-7)?

★

★

★

★

What would be the reason for doing these 4 things when they enter the land?

What instruction is given in verse 8?

How much of the law do you think was included in this instruction? What is the reason for your answer?

16. Re-read verses 9-10. Describe the scene here. (E.g., solemn, celebratory, etc.)

Write the words that Moses says to the people in verse 9.

What did Moses mean by this statement?

List the phrases in verses 9-10 that are repeated throughout the whole book of Deuteronomy.

Why do these phrases and words need to be repeated over and over?

Application: Do you recall the day you became part of the people of the LORD your God? How then would the words in verse 10 be an encouragement to you?

How often do you need to be reminded of the words of verse 10 even though you are a part of the people of God?

How do you remind yourself of this truth?

17. Read verses 11-14 and draw a picture of the scene described here. Be sure to include the 3 groups of people mentioned. (Clue: these instructions are carried out in Joshua 8:30-35 and more details can be found there.)

Why does God require the people to do this after they cross over into the promised land?

18. Read Deuteronomy 27:15-25. Match the cursed action from each verse to the commandment that it best fits under.

Verse: Cursed be the one who.....

The Ten Commandments:

15	makes a carved or cast metal image	Have no other gods before Me
16	dishonors his father or mother	Make no images to worship
17	moves his neighbor's landmark	Do not misuse the Name of God
18	misleads a blind man	Observe the Sabbath as holy
19	perverts justice to the outcast	Honor father and mother
20	has sex with a parent's spouse	Do not murder
21	has sex with an animal	Do not commit adultery
22	has sex with a sibling or half-sibling	Do not steal
23	has sex with an in-law	Do not bear false witness
24	injures or kills his neighbor in secret	Do not covet
25	takes money for murder	

What did this exercise help you to understand about these forbidden actions?

19. Read verse 26 and rewrite in your own words.

What does this mean?

20. Look up the word "amen" and write the definition here:

When the people say "Amen" at the end of each curse, what are they saying?

What are the implications of this?

Application: Verse 26 states that anyone who doesn't obey the Law will be cursed. Is this still true today? Explain your answer.

Is there hope for those of us who aren't able to keep the Law perfectly? Why or why not?

Read Galatians 3:13. How does this Scripture give us hope?

Has your understanding of obeying the Law of God changed? How so?

21. Read all of chapter 28. What are the first 5 words in verse 1 which prefaces the section on blessings?

What are the implications of these 5 words?

What are the first 6 words in verse 15 which preface the section on curses?

What are the implications of these words?

22. We will now contrast and compare some of the blessings and curses. Fill in the chart below after reading each verse listed. The first one has been done for you.

The Blessings	The Curses
v. 2 blessings come upon/overtake you	v. 15 curses come upon/overtake you
v. 3	v. 16
v. 4	v. 18
v. 5	v. 17
v. 6	v. 19
v. 7	v. 25
v. 8	vv. 20-21
v. 9	v. 29b
v. 10	v. 33
v. 11	vv. 38-40

The Blessings	The Curses
v. 12a	v. 24
v. 12	v. 44a
v. 13	v. 44b

What areas of life are not affected by blessings or curses?

What does this exercise reveal to you about God?

23. Re-read verses 45-57 again. What is the overall tone of these verses?

What are the reasons given for why the people will need to suffer these consequences (vv. 45-47)?

Look again at verse 48. What are the 4 ways in which the people of God will serve their enemies?

Go back and look at Deuteronomy 8:4-10. What do you see in that passage about these 4 things you listed in the previous question?

Back in chapter 28, how desperate do the people eventually become? How do you know this?

24. What does verse 52 tell us that the people of Israel trusted in?

What happened to the thing they trusted in?

Read Proverbs 3:1-8 and connect the implications to our Deuteronomy passage.

Application: Most likely Proverbs 3:5-6 is a familiar passage to you. How does connecting it to our study in Deuteronomy change its implications for you?

What are you NOT to trust in?

Is this a problem for you? Why or why not?

25. Re-read Deuteronomy 28:58-68. What does verse 58 tell us is the purpose for obedience to the Law?

Rather than realizing the purpose for obedience, summarize the results of what disobedience to the Law would bring according to these 11 verses.

What is God's attitude towards the people as consequences are meted out (v. 63)?

Application: It's hard to read about God delighting in the destruction of His people. However this is what the inspired Word of God tells us! What does this teach you about God and His view of disobedience to His commands?

How do you respond to reading of God delighting in His people's destruction?

What does your response reveal to you about your own heart?

What does your response reveal to you about your view of God and His Word?

26. Look at Deuteronomy 28:65. List the 5 things that Moses says the people will either find or that God will give them when they are scattered.

*

*

★

★

★

In case you feel that there is no hope for this people, go back and look at Deuteronomy 4:25-31. List all the reasons you find for why there is hope.

What would be the appropriate response for this hope?

Application: Studying this section on blessings and curses is rather sobering. It can leave you feeling hopeless and discouraged or it can fill you with joy and gratitude. Take some time to determine how you are responding to this part of the study. Are you feeling hopeless/discouraged? Or joyful/grateful?

If you are left feeling hopeless/discouraged, what would be necessary to become joyful/grateful?

Spend time in prayer reflecting on your responses to God's Word and asking Him for a joyful/grateful spirit. Be sure to thank Him for Someone to depend on other than yourself.

Application: Many today say that we are not required to obey the Law of God. Has your understanding of this concept changed? Why or why not?

When you think of your own obedience to the Word of God, can you say that you faithfully obey?

What is your next step, or action, when you realize you haven't obeyed fully?

On what (or Whom) do you depend? Explain your answer.

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 8 Notes: When You Enter the Land

Deuteronomy 26-28

Week 9: Covenant Renewed

Deuteronomy 29-30

Let this be your prayer this week:

Look on my affliction
and deliver me,
for I do not forget your law.
Plead my cause and redeem me;
give me life according to your promise!
Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they do not seek your statutes.
Great is your mercy, O LORD;
give me life according to your rules.
Many are my persecutors and my adversaries,
but I do not swerve from your testimonies.
I look at the faithless with disgust,
because they do not keep your commands.
Consider how I love your precepts!
Give me life according to your steadfast love.
The sum of your word is truth,
and every one of your righteous rules
endures forever.
~Psalm 119:153-160~

Week 9: Covenant Renewed

Deuteronomy 29-30

1. Read chapters 29-30 as a whole. Then go back and read chapter 29, verses 1-9 again.
2. What do the opening words in verse 1 reveal to you about this covenant?

Where were the people when the first covenant was made? _____

Where are the people now in this passage? _____

3. In verses 2-3, Moses refers to all that the people saw God do before their eyes. From memory, write down all the things you can recall that God did in the sight of His people in Egypt and to Pharaoh.

4. Read verse 4 again. What does this mean?

Do you think understanding is about to be given? How do you know?

5. Verses 5-6 are referring back to Deuteronomy 8:1-4. Compare these 2 passages. What was it that the people were to come to know?

Verses 7-8 are a quick review of part of their history. Based on this and the previous question, what are the reasons why they should obey the words of this covenant?

What is the result of that obedience (v. 9)?

6. Read verses 10-15 and answer the following questions:

*Who is standing before the LORD in preparation for this covenant renewal?

*Who is making this covenant with the people?

*What becomes of the people of this covenant?

*What role will God have as a result of this covenant?

*List everyone on whom this covenant will have a bearing:

Who might this include?

7. Read verses 16-28. Moses reminds the people about the pagan practices they saw back in Egypt and warns them against turning to that idolatry now. What 4 stages do you see in the progression of turning away from serving the One True God of Israel? (Hint: these are found in verses 18-19.)

*

*

★

★

How would you describe the person who blesses himself in his heart (v. 19)?

Humble Arrogant Deceived (Circle all that apply.)

What is the LORD's response to this person (v. 20)?

8. At the end of verse 19 we read, "This will lead to the sweeping away of moist and dry alike." What does this mean and how is it related to the person who turned away from the LORD God and towards idolatry?
9. Verses 21 and following speak of both the individual and the land as a whole bearing the consequences of idolatry. How is this connected to "the moist and dry alike" being swept away?

What is the question that the nations ask when they see the afflictions of the land (v. 24)?

Write a summary in your own words of what that next generation might be seeing, as described in verse 23.

What is the response that the next generation will give when asked the above question by the nations (vv. 25-28)?

How is this related to what we studied in chapter 28 from last week's lesson?

10. Read Proverbs 2:20-22. What are the implications there that relate to what you've studied in this section of Deuteronomy?

Application: It's easy to criticize the Israelites for failing to remain faithful to the commands of their God. However, we fail to remember that we act in the same way! How can we as believers guard against such arrogance and deceit as we read about in Deuteronomy 29:19?

How does Proverbs 2:20-22 encourage you in your walk of faith and obedience?

11. Read Deuteronomy 29:29 and rewrite this in your own words.

What is this verse saying in light of the verses that preceded it?

Application: There will always be things you long to know and understand that you will not know or understand. How much do you strive after things that are the secret things belonging only to the LORD?

What does this striving say about your trust in the LORD God?

What, if anything, needs to change in you? How will you go about that? Be specific.

12. Read Deuteronomy 30 in its entirety. What is the overall tone of this chapter?

13. Read verses 1-10 again. What can you assume will happen to the Israelites in the future (v. 1)?

What would be the reason for this?

When will these blessings and curses be called to mind?

What does verse 2 tell us happens after the initial consequence?

What is the outcome of this?

14. Of all the results of sin and idolatry that you've studied in chapters 28 & 29, which ones do you see a reversal of here in chapter 30? List as many as you can find from verses 3-5.

What does this exercise tell you about how God?

15. Read verse 4 in two other translations, then rewrite it in your own words.

What does this teach you about how God keeps His promises?

16. Re-read verse 6. Look up the word "circumcise" and write the definition that best fits the context here.

Why does the circumcision of the heart lead to loving the LORD your God with all your heart and soul?

How does the circumcision of the heart and loving God with all your heart and soul lead to life?

17. What will God do to the nations who persecute the people of God (v. 7)?

18. Re-read verses 8-10. Twice we see the word "again" in these verses. What does the use of this word tell us about these 2 statements?

**And you shall again obey... -*

**For the LORD will again take delight... -*

What is the relationship between these 2 statements?

What is the cause and effect that we read in this passage?

19. Read verses 11-14 several times. What commandment is Moses referring to?

Summarize what is Moses saying here in these verses.

"But the word is very near you." What is it that Moses is referring to?

"It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it." How can this be?

20. Read verses 15-18. Fill in the chart below with the appropriate phrases. The first line has been completed for you.

	Life and Good	Death and Evil
If you...	obey the commandments	turn your heart away and not listen
by...		
then you will....		
and God will....		

21. Read verses 19-20. We've seen this contrast between obedience and disobedience repeatedly throughout the book of Deuteronomy. But now we see Moses calls 2 witnesses. Who or what are they?

What is significant about these 2 witnesses?

22. Moses puts a choice before the people. What should they choose?

What will be the outcome of this choice (v. 19)?

23. In verse 20, there are 3 things that they are to do in relation to the LORD their God. What are they?

*

*

*

There are then 3 reasons given for why they should do the above 3 things. What are they?

*

*

*

Application: Since all Scripture is given for our instruction in righteousness, how would you say these verses apply to you as a believer today?

How does the study of chapter 30 change your understanding of obedience to God's Word?

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 9 Notes: Covenant Renewed

Deuteronomy 29-30

Week 10: Looking Forward

Deuteronomy 31:1-32:47

Let this be your prayer this week:

Princes persecute me
without cause,
but my heart stands in awe
of your words.
I rejoice at your word
like one who finds great spoil.
I hate and abhor falsehood,
but I love your law.
Seven times a day I praise you
for your righteous rules.
Great peace have those who love your law;
nothing can make them stumble.
I hope for your salvation, O LORD,
and I do your commandments.
My soul keeps your testimonies;
I love them exceedingly.
I keep your precepts and testimonies,
for all my ways are before you.
~Psalm 119:161-168~

Week 10: Looking Forward

Deuteronomy 31:1-32:47

1. Read chapter 31. Write a brief summary of this chapter.

2. Re-read verses 1-8. Keep in mind that this is Moses' final sermon to the people.

How old is Moses? _____

What is his physical condition? _____

What did God say to Moses about going into the promised land (v. 2)?

What is the reason for this? (Hint: see Numbers 27:12-14.)

Who then will go before the people over the Jordan River (v. 3)? _____

What will the Lord do there? _____

What does this enable the people to do? _____

Who is appointed by God to be at their head? _____

3. Verse 4 says God will do to the inhabitants of Canaan the same as He did to Sihon and Og? What did God do to these 2 kings? (Hint: see Deuteronomy 2:30-31 and 3:2.)

Read verse 5 again. What commandment is Moses referring to here? (See Deuteronomy 20:16-18 for clues.)

4. Read verse 6 in 2 translations and then rewrite it in your own words.

5. Read the following verses and note what each says about God.

*Psalm 33:4 -

*Psalm 36:5 -

*Psalm 40:11 -

*Isaiah 25:1 -

*Lamentations 3:22-23 -

On what basis should the people of Israel take courage?

Application: When you face difficult challenges, on what do you usually base your courage and strength to move forward? Do you need to re-evaluate this?

What steps can you take to base your courage in God's faithfulness?

6. Read Deuteronomy 31:7-8. Moses has been speaking to all the people. Now he speaks to Joshua directly. He says some of the same things to Joshua that he'd spoken to all the people in verses 3-6. Read the phrases listed below. Circle in red the words Moses spoke to the people. Underline in green the words he spoke to Joshua.

The LORD goes before you. You shall put them in possession of the land.

Joshua will go over at your head. Be strong and courageous.

The LORD will give your enemies over to you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

You will go with this people into the land. You will dispossess the nations.

Do not fear or be in dread of them. He will destroy the nations before you.

It is the LORD your God who goes with you.

What can you deduct from doing this activity?

7. Read verses 9-13 and summarize what Moses is commanding the people to do.

Who is to be included in this exercise?

What is the expected outcome of the exercise?

What group of persons is specifically mentioned in verse 13?

What is significant about the instructions given regarding this group?

Why is this important? Look up Romans 10:17 for help with your answer.

Application: Are you concerned about how or whether children are taught the truths of Scripture? If not, should you be? Why or why not?

8. Read verses 14-29. Describe the instructions God gives Moses in verses 14-15.

Describe the prophetic word that God gives about the people of Israel after Moses dies (v. 16).

What does God say He will do in response to what the people do (vv.17-18)?

What will the people say when they experience such evil and troubles (v. 17)?

What had Moses just told the people back in verse 6 of this same chapter?

Application: Do you question whether God has forsaken you when you experience troubles in this life? Why or why not?

What do you do with Deuteronomy 31:6?

9. What does God instruct Moses to do in verse 19? What are His reasons for this?

Look up the definition of "witness." Keep in mind that this word is used as a noun in this sentence.

With that definition in mind, why does God want the people to have this song?

What does it mean that the song will be a witness against them?

In verses 21, 26 and 28, we see the witness confronting them and set against them. What are the implications of this?

Application: Do you ever consider the Scriptures to be a witness against you? If yes, how so?

10. Re-read verses 20-21. These are words that we've read repeatedly in Deuteronomy. Go back and read Deuteronomy 8:11-20. Note the similarities between these 2 passages.

Deuteronomy 8:11-20

Deuteronomy 31:20-21

Did God know ahead of time that His people would turn away from Him? How do you know this?

Application: Does the fact that God already knows whether you will follow after Him faithfully or turn away towards idolatry encourage you towards obedience? Why or why not?

Verse 22 tells us that Moses wrote the song God instructed him to write. That song is in chapter 32 which we will study shortly.

11. Write a summary of what is happening in verses 23-26.

12. Re-read verses 27-30. In general, what does Moses say to the people?

What do you think would be the effect of this message on the people even as they are aware that their leader will soon die? Would it encourage or discourage them?

Application: How does your own heart respond when you read in Scripture that you are to be faithfully obedient to the LORD God even while reading that you won't be able to do so due to your rebellious and stubborn nature?

Is there any hope for you and for others? What is that hope?

13. We're going to break down the Song of Moses in chapter 32 into its stanzas and look at each section separately. Read each section of verses and answer the corresponding questions as listed below.

- Read verses 1-3. Write in your own words what Moses is saying here.

- Read verses 4-9.

- * List the ways that Moses describes God in this passage.

*What does Moses say about how the people responded to God?

*Who does Moses say the people should ask about God and His faithfulness?

*Moses stated that God gave an inheritance to His people, but what does he say is God's portion?

- Read verses 10-14.

*Fill in the blanks from verse 10: " _____ found _____ in a desert land...."

Who is the 1st blank referring to? _____ The 2nd blank? _____

*Write a summary of what Moses is saying in verses 10-14.

- Read verses 15-18.

*Write out the first 6 words from verse 15 here:

*Who is Jeshurun? Here is a definition from Easton's Bible dictionary:
a poetical name for the people of Israel, used in token of affection,
meaning, "the dear upright people"

*Knowing that Jeshurun is a term of endearment for the people of Israel,
summarize what Moses is saying about what God's people did.

*Write out verse 18 here:

*How does verse 18 line up with what we've seen as a repetitive theme
throughout our study of Deuteronomy?

- Read verses 19-22.

*Who is speaking here, beginning in verse 20? _____

*Write a summary of what is being stated in this stanza.

- Read verses 23-27.

- *Who continues to speak in this stanza? _____

- *How severe is the judgment spoken of here?

- *Look up the definition of "bereave." Describe what the sword will do outdoors.

- *Will anyone escape this judgment?

- *What is the reason God doesn't completely destroy this rebellious people? Does this reason surprise you?

- Read verses 28-33.

- *Who is speaking here in this passage? (Hint: the speaker has changed.)

- *About whom is the author speaking?

- *What is the overall tone of this stanza?

- Read verses 34-38.

- *God is again speaking in these verses and He says that vengeance belongs to Him. Look up the words "vengeance" and "recompense" and write the definitions here:

*What does it mean that vengeance and recompense belong to God?

*What does Moses say the Lord will do for His people?

* What does "vindicate" mean?

*What does God say about the idols His people had turned to?

*Will those other gods indeed help them?

- Read verses 39-42.

*Who is speaking in this stanza? _____

*Summarize the message of this stanza.

- Read verse 43, which is the concluding stanza in Moses' Song.

*What is the central theme of this stanza?

14. After studying through the Song of Moses, what are your impressions?

Why did God have Moses write this song? (Hint: Deuteronomy 31:19)

How would this song have met the purpose for which God intended it?

What would be the benefit to the people of learning such a song as they were about to lose their leader?

15. Read Deuteronomy 32:44-47. Who recited the words of the song to the people?

What were the people to do with the song?

What does it mean, "For it is no empty word for you, but your very life"?

"By this word you shall live..." Do you think Moses is speaking only of this song?

Application: God has given us His Word and it is the Word by which we live. Go back to Deuteronomy 8:3 to read the words that Jesus quoted in Matthew 4:4 during his wilderness temptation. Write those words here:

How much do you depend on God's Word for your very life? Or do you tend to depend on yourself or on the wisdom of this world?

What, if anything, needs to change? What steps can you take to exact this change, starting today?

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 10 Notes: Looking Forward

Deuteronomy 31:1-32:47

Week 11: A Prophet Like Moses

Deuteronomy 32:48-34:12

Let this be your prayer this week:

Let my cry come before you,
O LORD;

give me understanding
according to your word!

Let my plea come before you;
deliver me according to your word.

My lips will pour forth praise,
for you teach me your statutes.

My tongue will sing of your word,
for all your commandments are right.

Let your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen your precepts.

I long for your salvation, O LORD,
and your law is my delight.

Let my soul live and praise you,
and let your rules help me.

I have gone astray like a lost sheep;
seek your servant, for I do not
forget your commandments.

~Psalm 119:169-176~

Week 11: A Prophet Like Moses

Deuteronomy 32:48-34:12

1. Read Deuteronomy 32:48-52. Write a summary of what God said to Moses.

What are the 2 reasons why Moses cannot go into the promised land?

Briefly explain what happened at the waters of Meribah-kadesh. (Hint: See Numbers 20:7-13.)

Before Moses went up to the mountain, he blessed the people. We will look at Deuteronomy 33 in sections. Reading verses in other translations can be helpful.

2. Read Deuteronomy 33:1-5. Then re-read in the NIV translation.

In verse 2, Moses describes how God came to rescue His people. Then in verses 3-5, Moses is talking to God. Write in your own words what Moses says to God about Himself.

Here is a list of the 12 sons of Jacob in their birth order:

Reuben	Naphtali	Joseph
Simeon	Gad	Ephraim
Levi	Asher	Manasseh
Judah	Issachar	Benjamin
Dan	Zebulun	

3. Verse 6 is a blessing for _____. This son was Jacob's firstborn. See Genesis 49:3-4 for the blessing that Jacob gave to this son.

Do you think this blessing in Deuteronomy 33 is a blessing to flourish? Why or why not?

[The tribe of Reuben never did excel; as far as is known, there never came a prophet, a judge, or a king from the tribe of Reuben.]

4. Verse 7 is _____'s blessing. Look at Genesis 29:35 to see the meaning of this son's name.

Using that definition, how could the beginning of this verse be re-worded?

"Hear, O LORD, the voice of _____." (Deuteronomy 33:7)

Was this a blessing of preservation for the tribe of Judah? Why would that be important?

[King David was of the line of Judah. Jesus, the Messiah, is the Lion of the tribe of Judah.]

5. Verses 8-11 are a blessing over the tribe of _____.

Read Exodus 32:25-29 for the background of what Moses is referring to in his blessing over the tribe of Levi.

Because of the Levites' obedience to the command of Moses in this Exodus passage, what does his blessing over their tribe secure for them? (Hint: See Deuteronomy 18:1-5.)

[The prophecy "I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel (in Genesis 49:7) was given to both the tribes of Simeon and Levi. For the tribe of Levi, it was a blessing, as they were scattered throughout the nation to minister to the people and to bring God's word to the whole nation.]

6. Verse 12 is a blessing over _____.

Using the map in Appendix 3 on page xi, find the territory given to Benjamin and note what significant city is within that territory.

Look up the following verses and note what each says about Jerusalem:

*2 Chronicles 6:6 -

*Psalm 48:2 -

*Isaiah 62:1 -

*Zechariah 8:3 -

*Revelation 21:2 -

[The place of special love and blessing Benjamin had would be prophetically fulfilled in a Benjaminite city becoming the center of the nation – Jerusalem.]

7. Verses 13-17 are a blessing spoken over the tribe of _____. Who are Joseph's 2 sons are named in verse 17?

Joseph is the son who had 2 sons, both to whom God gave tribal allotments. When you do the math, Joseph comes up with a double blessing! Does Moses' blessing reveal a generous portion from the LORD for the tribe of Joseph?

Read Genesis 49:22-26. Does Moses' blessing continue in the same thread as the blessing Joseph received from his father, Jacob? In what ways do you see this?

[The descendants of this one son among the twelve sons of Jacob were far more numerous than all the other tribes.]

8. Deuteronomy 33:18-19 is a blessing over which 2 sons?

_____ & _____

See Genesis 49:13-15 and note what characteristics of Jacob's blessing over these 2 sons are also spoken by Moses.

Using the map on page xi from Appendix 3, what body of water is in proximity to these 2 tribes? _____

Look up Isaiah 9:1-8 to see how the prophet connected the tribe to the region of this body of water. Who is the prophecy in this passage about? _____

[Isaiah's prediction is Messianic: Galilee (including Zebulun) would be honored as the first to hear Christ's preaching, and this would more than compensate for their humiliation at the hands of the Assyrians centuries before.]

9. In verses 20-21, Moses speaks a blessing over _____. What characteristic do you see in the words spoken over this son?

See Jacob's blessing over this son in Genesis 49:19. How do these 2 blessings correspond with each other?

Look up 1 Chronicles 12:8 to learn a later description of the men from this tribe.

[The lion-like character of the tribe of Gad was shown by the fact that Gad furnished many fine troops for David. This is in fulfillment of Jacob's words in Genesis 49: "he shall triumph at last" (KJV).]

10. Verse 22 is a blessing spoken over the tribe of _____. Write the blessing here:

What did Jacob speak over this son in Genesis 49:16-17?

What did this tribe later lead the people into? (Hint: See Judges 18:30.)

Would this word from Moses be a blessing then? or a curse?

[This may not be a complimentary phrase. History records that Dan was a troublesome tribe. They were the tribe to introduce idolatry into Israel, and later Dan became a center of idol worship in Israel (Amos 8:14). Indeed, Jacob said of Dan in Genesis 49:17, "Dan shall be a serpent by the way" (reminiscent of the serpent in the Garden of Eden).]

11. Verse 23 is a blessing spoken over _____. Look once again at the map on page xi in the appendix and note what region this tribe settled in. (Hint: it is named for the sea.)

See Matthew 2:19-23 and 4:23 to see who else lived, preached and taught in this region.

[Jesus did much of His teaching and ministry in the region of Galilee. No wonder Moses says this tribe is full of the blessing of the LORD!]

12. Verses 24-25 is a blessing over _____. How does the blessing here in these verses correspond to Jacob's blessing over his son in Genesis 49:20?

[Washing one's feet in oil was a sign of prosperity, and Jacob's reference to Asher's food being "rich" indicated that Asher would possess fertile lands. In Joshua 19:24-31, we learn that Asher received land along the Mediterranean coast.]

13. Look over the list of these blessings over the tribes of Israel and the list of the 12 sons of Jacob on page 130. Which tribe did not receive a blessing from Moses?

Read the words Jacob spoke over 2 of his sons in Genesis 49:5-7. Do you recall what event Jacob is referring to which is the reason for his words in this passage? (Hint: the story is found in Genesis 34.)

What does Jacob say he will do to these 2 sons in the last part of Genesis 49:7?

[For the tribe of Simeon, the scattering was a significant curse; they are not even mentioned among the tribes being blessed here. This tribe was the smallest and weakest of all the tribes at the close of their sojourn in the wilderness, as noted in the second census of Moses (Numbers 26:14). Further, because of its size, the tribe of Simeon was forced to share territory with Judah, a larger and more powerful tribe (Joshua 19:1-9). See the map on page xi for a visual of this tribe's location.]

14. After Moses completed the blessing of the tribes of Israel, he once again reminded them of who God is and not only what He has done, but what He will do in their future. Read Deuteronomy 33:26-29.

Remember, Jeshurun is a term of endearment for Israel.

As the people of Israel are poised to enter the promised land in the very near future, how do these words about God encourage them?

Do you think these words describing the land in verse 28 are talking about where the people have come from or where they are going? How do you know?

15. Read verse 29 aloud several times. Then look up the following verses and note what each says about the one who is happy.

*Psalm 1:1-2 -

*Psalm 4:6-7 -

*Psalm 9:1-2 -

*Psalm 28:6-7 -

With these verses in mind, rewrite verse 29 from Deuteronomy 33 in your own words.

16. Read Deuteronomy 34.

What 2 promises has God been faithful to keep (v. 4)?

*

*

17. Re-read verse 6.

Who buried Moses? _____

Where is Moses buried? _____

What do you think are the implications for this?

18. How old is Moses when he dies? _____

Describe his physical state.

How long did the people of Israel mourn his death? _____

Who took the position of leadership after Moses' death? _____

How did the people respond to this new leader?

19. Re-read verses 10-13. Write a summary of these verses.

Read Deuteronomy 18:15. What does this verse say about another prophet?

20. Look up the following verses and note what each says:

*John 6:14 (skim over John 6:1-13 to see the context of verse 14) -

*Acts 3:17-23 (skim over verses 12-16 to see the context) -

*Hebrews 3:1-6 -

Did God raise up another prophet like Moses? YES or NO (circle one)

Who did God raise up? _____

Application: Why is this prophet who God raised up significant for us today?

-Weekly Wrap up-

In light of your study this week, what was the most significant thing that you learned about God? Why was it significant to you?

Knowing that God is _____ shows me
that I am _____.

What are some practical steps you can take to live in light of this truth?

Week 11 Notes: A Prophet Like Moses

Deuteronomy 32:48-34:12

Appendix 1: Attributes of God

THE ATTRIBUTES *Of* GOD

To study God's attributes is to study his character, to answer questions like, *Who is God?* and *What is God like?* A typical classification of God's attributes divides them into those that are **incommunicable** (those that he does not share or "communicate" to anyone or anything else) and **communicable** (those that he shares with other beings). Like most theological classifications, this one is imperfect but still helpful as we seek to understand what is so far beyond ourselves.

God's communicable attributes can be further categorized into: attributes of God's being, mental attributes, moral attributes, attributes of purpose and "summary" attributes (attributes that, in a more particular way, modify each of the others).

It is important to consider that God is not simply the sum of his attributes. His attributes are not separate from one another, but each one modifies or qualifies each of the others.

Attributes of God by Visual Theology. Used with Permission.

TRANSCENDENCE God transcends all creation and is unknowable apart from his self-initiated revelation.	IMMANENCE God is active in this world and in our daily lives. God cares about every aspect of our existence and invites us to welcome his guidance, grace, and love.	ASEITY God is self-existent and self-sufficient and has no need of human beings or the rest of creation.	OMNIPRESENCE God has no size or shape and is present in all places with his entire being.
UNITY God's whole being includes all of his attributes at all times. These attributes are never in opposition.	ETERNALITY God has always existed, having no beginning and no end, and experiencing no succession of moments.	IMMUTABILITY God cannot change in his being, perfections, purposes, and promises.	GLORY Summary attribute The created brightness that surrounds God's revelation of himself.
BEAUTY Summary attribute God is the possessor and the sum of all desirable qualities.	BLESSEDNESS Summary attribute God delights fully in himself and in all that reflects his character.	PERFECTION Summary attribute God fully possesses all excellent qualities and lacks no qualities that would be desirable for him.	JEALOUSY Moral attribute God always seeks to protect his own honor.
GOODNESS Moral attribute God is the final standard of all good and all he is and does is worthy of approval.	PEACE Moral attribute God, in his being and actions, is separate from all confusion and disorder.	HOLINESS Moral attribute God is separated from sin and he is committed to seeking his own honor.	LOVE Moral attribute God eternally gives of himself to others.
MERCY Moral attribute God is good to those in misery and distress and he is good to those who deserve punishment.	RIGHTEOUSNESS Moral attribute God is the final standard for what is right and he always acts in accordance with what is right. (Also known as God's justice.)	WRATH Moral attribute God intensely hates all sin.	TRUTHFULNESS Mental attribute God is the true God whose knowledge and words are both true and the final standard of truth.
KNOWLEDGE Mental attribute God fully knows himself and all actual and possible things. (Also known as God's omniscience.)	WISDOM Mental attribute God always chooses the best goals and the best means to those goals.	WILL Attribute of purpose God approves and determines to bring about every action necessary for the existence and activity of all that exists.	FREEDOM Attribute of purpose God does whatever he pleases.
OMNIPOTENCE Attribute of purpose God is able to do all his holy will. (Also known as God's sovereignty.)	INVISIBILITY Attribute describing God's being God's total essence, all of his being, will never be visible to us.	SPIRITUALITY Attribute describing God's being God is a being who is not made up of matter and who cannot be perceived by our bodily senses.	INCOMMUNICABLE attributes are in blue. COMMUNICABLE attributes are in orange, along with their category.

Attributes of God by Visual Theology. Used with Permission.

Appendix 2: Biblical Covenants

Major Covenants in the Old Testament

Covenants	Reference	Type	Participant	Description
Noahic	Gen 9:8-17	Royal Grant	Made with righteous (6:9) Noah and his descendants and every living thing on earth—all life that is subject to human jurisdiction	An unconditional divine promise never to destroy all earthly life with some natural catastrophe, the covenant "sign" (9:13, 17) being the rainbow in the storm cloud.
Abrahamic A	Gen 15:6-21	Royal (land) Grant	Made with "righteous" Abram (his faith was "credited...to him as righteousness," v. 6) and his descendants, v. 16	An unconditional divine promise to fulfill the grant of the land; a self-maledictory oath symbolically enacted it (15:18)
Abrahamic B	Gen 17	Suzerain-vassal	Made with Abraham as patriarchal head of his household	A conditional divine pledge to be Abraham's God and the God of his descendants (cf. "as for me," v. 4; "as for you," v. 9); the condition: total consecration to the Lord as symbolized by circumcision
Sinaitic	Exod 19-24	Suzerain-vassal	Made with Israel as the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and as the people the Lord had redeemed from bondage to an earthly power	A conditional divine pledge to be Israel's God (as its protector and the guarantor of its blessed destiny); the condition: Israel's total consecration to the Lord as his people (his kingdom) who live by his rule and serve his purposes in history
Phinehas	Num 25:10-13	Royal Grant	Made with the zealous priest Phinehas	An unconditional divine promise to maintain the family of Phinehas in a "lasting priesthood" (v. 13; implicitly a pledge to Israel to provide it forever with a faithful priesthood)

Covenants	Reference	Type	Participant	Description
Davidic	2 Sam 7:5-16	Royal Grant	Made with faithful King David after his devotion to God as Israel's king and the Lord's anointed vassal had come to special expression (v. 2)	An unconditional divine promise to establish and maintain the Davidic dynasty on the throne of Israel (implicitly a pledge to Israel) to provide it forever with a godly king like David and through that dynasty to do for it what he had done through David—bring it into rest in the promised land (1 Kgs 4:20-21; 5:3-4)
New	Jer 31:31-34	Royal Grant	Promised to rebellious Israel as it is about to be expelled from the promised land in actualization of the most severe covenant curse (Lev 26:27-39; Deut 28:36-37, 45-68)	An unconditional divine promise to unfaithful Israel to forgive its sins and establish his relationship with it on a new basis by writing his law "on their hearts" (v. 33)—a covenant of pure grace

Major Types of Royal Covenants/ Treaties in the Ancient Near East

Royal Grant (Unconditional)	Parity	Suzerain-Vassal (conditional)
A king's grant (of land or some other benefit) to a loyal servant for faithful or exceptional service. The grant was normally perpetual and unconditional, but the servant's heirs benefited from it only as they continued in their father's loyalty and service. (Cf. 1 Sam 8:14; 22:7; 27:6; Esth 8:1.)	A covenant between equals, binding them to mutual friendship or at least to mutual respect for each other's spheres and interests. Participants called each other "brother." (Cf. Gen 21:27; 26:31; 31:44-54; 1 Kgs 5:12; 15:19; 20:32-34; Amos 1:9.)	A covenant regulating the relationship between a great king and one of his subject kings. The great king claimed absolute right of sovereignty, demanded total loyalty and service (the vassal must "love" his suzerain) and pledged protection of the subject's realm and dynasty, conditional on the vassal's faithfulness and loyalty to him. The vassal pledged absolute loyalty to his suzerain—whatever service his suzerain demanded—and exclusive reliance on the suzerain's protection. Participants called each other "lord" and "servant" or "father" and "son." (Cf. Josh 9:6,8; Ezekiel 17 ¹³ -18; Hos 12:1.)

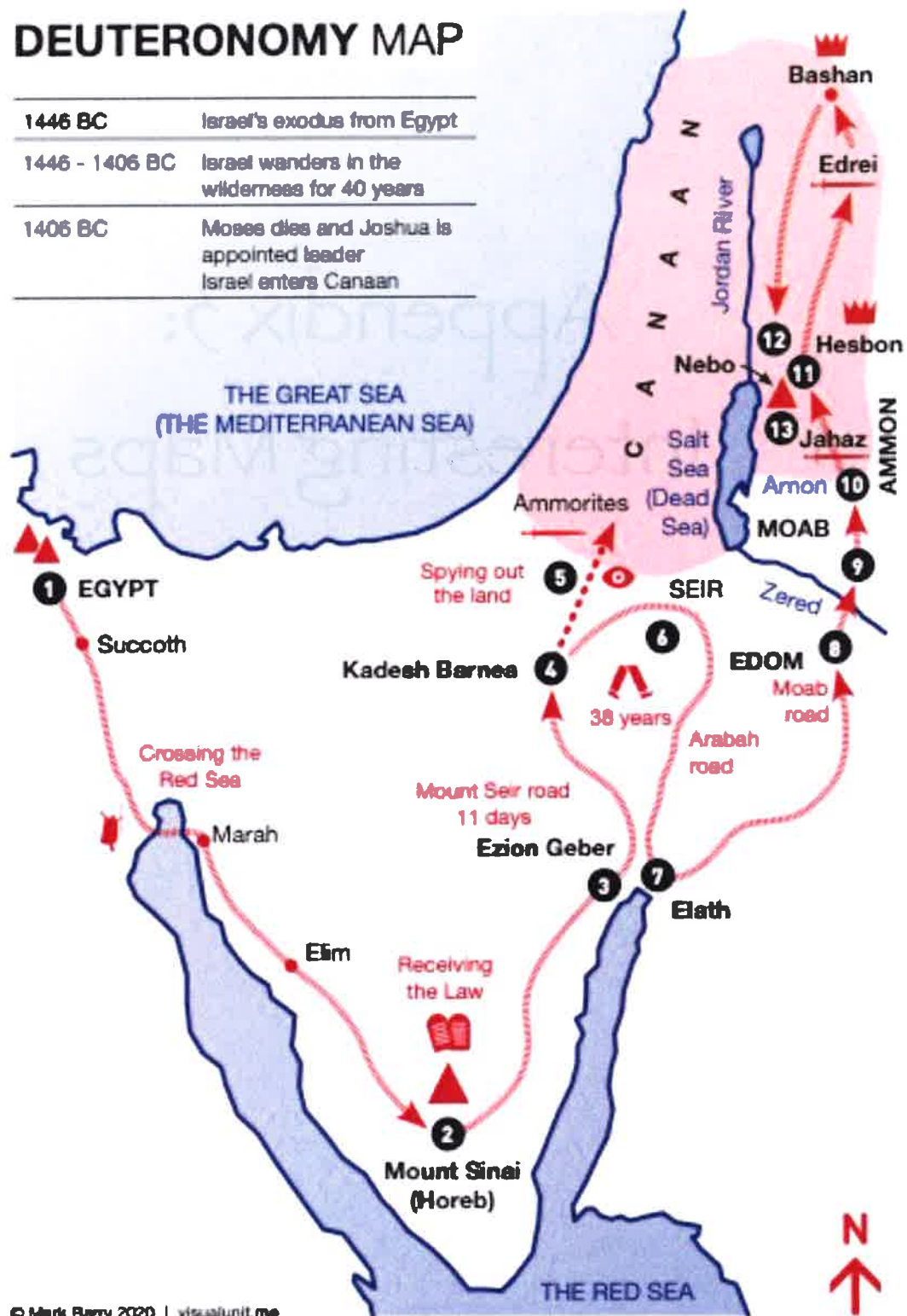
"Commitments made in these covenants were accompanied by self-maledictory oaths (made orally, ceremonially, or both). The gods were called upon to witness the covenants and implement the curses of the oaths if the covenants were violated."

NIV Zondervan Study Bible, 2015, pg 41. Used with permission.

Appendix 3: Interesting Maps

DEUTERONOMY MAP

1446 BC	Israel's exodus from Egypt
1446 - 1406 BC	Israel wanders in the wilderness for 40 years
1406 BC	Moses dies and Joshua is appointed leader Israel enters Canaan



© Mark Barry 2020 | visualunit.me



Appendix 4: Small Group Discussion Guide

Small Group Discussion Guide

Deuteronomy, Part 2

Week 1- Introduction

Note to leaders: These questions are meant only as a guide for you to use as you lead your group. As you complete the homework yourself, you may have other discussion questions that you want to ask your group members.

Week 1: Introduction

-Welcome and introductions

-Icebreaker question

-Review the structure of the study

- Meeting weekly on Mondays
- First hour is small group, followed by teaching hour
- Homework every week; work at your own pace
- Goal isn't to have all the answers filled in, but rather to be in God's Word and learn how to study for yourself
- Encourage attendance even if the homework isn't completed
- Essentially, the more you put into this, the more you will get out of this!

-Review the structure of the small group

- Not essentially a "review the homework" time
- Discussion time for difficult or very thought-provoking sections from the homework
- Time for connecting and sharing what God is showing you
- Prayer time together

-Discussion questions

- What do you recall from our study of Deuteronomy Part 1?
- What made the biggest impression on you from Part 1? How has this impacted your life?
- What is the central theme of Deuteronomy? What is significant about this theme?
- What do you hope to learn or gain from participating in this study?

-Close time with prayer

Week 2- "Laws Concerning Worship, Part 1"**-Discussion questions**

- What did you learn about God's requirements for the worship of Himself?
- Why did God also require the destruction of the pagan worship sites? What bearing would leaving them remain have on the people of Israel?
- What does it mean to "rejoice before the Lord your God" or to rejoice "in all that you undertake"? (Questions 9 & 15) Is this something you make a practice of doing? How can you begin to make a practice of rejoicing before the Lord?
- Does God still define the terms for worship today? Talk about this.
- Do you think more about worship according to your preferences or according to God's terms? How do we discern the differences?
- Read Deuteronomy 12:28. What does this verse teach about obedience to God's Word? What does this verse NOT teach? Why is it important to know this?
- Do you tend to have the mindset that obedience to God will guarantee that life will be good and no hardships will come your way? Is this mindset biblical? How do you know?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 3- "Laws Concerning Worship, Part 2"**-Discussion questions**

- What is your summary of this week's lesson?
- What did you learn about being ensnared by idolatry? In what ways might we be ensnared to worship other gods today? How might we be ensnared to worship God in ungodly ways? How do we fight against being ensnared?
- How would you know whether a prophet or dreamer of dreams was truly representing the LORD God? What is the one thing that would discredit a prophet even if the prediction came true? How easy is it to be ensnared by this scenario in our cultural context today? How do we guard against being deceived?
- Read Deuteronomy 13:4. What does it mean to hold fast to the LORD your God?
- Have you ever been ensnared into idolatry by family or friendships? Discuss the significance of Luke 14:26 on this teaching from Deuteronomy. How might love for your family/friends over God lead you to disobey God's Word? How do we guard against this?
- The penalty for idolatry is severe. What does the severity of the penalty reveal about the nature of the sin of idolatry? What does the severity of the penalty reveal about God and His view of idolatry?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 4- "Holy to the LORD"**-Discussion questions**

- Some people view all the laws we've studied this week as simply cumbersome restrictions. What did you learn about why God put these laws into place?
- How did the laws God gave set the people apart as holy unto Himself? How does this principle of being different from the pagan nations around them translate over to our culture today?
- What did you learn about the tithe that is new to you? What is the Lord teaching His people through the commands concerning the tithe? What bearing does this command have on us today, given what 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 says?
- How did the laws concerning the Sabbatical Year point to the coming Messiah's work? Discuss this.
- God weaves within His commands the opportunity for His people to rejoice and to celebrate Him and His work in their lives. What are ways that we can intentionally celebrate God's work today?
 - What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 5- "Love Justice & Mercy"**-Discussion questions**

- What did you learn about the meaning of righteous judgment and its counterpart, unrighteous judgment?
- In today's culture, the meaning of justice is not always consistent. How can we discern the difference between biblical justice and a counterfeit justice that is offered in the world, especially social justice?
- We've begun to see how the whole law is laid on the foundation of the Ten Commandments. How did you see this in this week's passage? How did it change your view or understanding of the whole law?
- If we treated the Bible as Israel's king was to do, by reading it and meditating on it day after day and obeying it even when it costs, how would we be different people? How different would our churches be? What are our excuses for not living out these particular verses?
- In 1 Peter 2:9, Peter calls the believers a royal priesthood. In light of what we have learned about the Levites, what is significant about being a royal priesthood?
- What might this list of abominations found in verses 18:10-11 look like in today's culture? How might we be subtly guilty of these sins?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 6- "Love Your Neighbor, Part 1"**-Discussion questions**

- Review the quote by Paul David Tripp on page 54. How does understanding that the Law of God was given as a gift to His people help you as you study the expanded law? How do you see the statutes as the way God is protecting and preserving His people?
- What do the instructions about the cities of refuge reveal about God and His character? Do these truths laid out in this passage of Scripture have meaning in our cultural context today? If yes, how so?
- How do you see "false witness" permeate our society today? Our churches? Our lives? How do we inquire diligently today to discern whether what we're hearing is a true or a false witness?
- Read Psalm 84:10. In light of this verse, how do you see mercy demonstrated in Deuteronomy 20:11? Was it difficult for you to see mercy here in the actions the Israelites were instructed to take? Why or why not?
- What do the laws concerning war teach about the mercies and judgment of God?
- How ought the statutes in Deuteronomy 22 inform our view of sexual purity and the sanctity of marriage today? What do these statutes about sexual immorality reveal to us about God?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 7- "Love Your Neighbor, Part 2"**-Discussion questions**

- How do you see the mercy of God working within the structure of His judgments in the Law?
- How do you see God's protection and provision for His people reflected in the statutes we've studied this week?
- How does Jesus' teaching on marriage help us understand God's statutes regarding marriage and divorce?
- How does the Law reflect God's character? Is this important for us today?
- Do you see the principles in the statutes given to Israel as something that is foundational for our lives as Christ followers today? How so?
- As you've studied this week, how has your understanding of the Law of God changed? How will this understanding change how you walk in obedience to God's Word today?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 8- "When You Enter the Land"**-Discussion questions**

- What is significant about the Israelites' offerings of first fruits and tithes as it relates to entering the land of their inheritance?
- How often do you reflect on what God has done for you in a way that brings you to worship Him? What are some practices you use to proclaim His wondrous deeds today?
- We again see in Deuteronomy 26:16-19 the charge to be careful to obey the statutes and the rules with all our heart and soul. How do we bring this principle of obedience to God's Word forward to our lives today without getting distracted by the various statutes that were specific to Israel?
- Are Christians today obligated to keep the Ten Commandments? How does 1 John 2:6 help us understand our obligation today?
- Studying the sections on blessings and curses is rather sobering. What was your response to this? How does this bear on our lives today?
- Do you see your obedience to God's Word as faithful obedience? How do you recognize unfaithfulness in your life? What steps then need to be taken?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 9- "Covenant Renewed"**-Discussion questions**

- Look at Deuteronomy 29:4. What do you think Moses is saying to the people here?
- Read Matthew 13:13-17. How are Jesus' words related to what Moses is speaking to the people in ancient Israel?
- What stages do you see in Deut. 29:18-19 as it relates to turning away from the One True God and towards idolatry? How do we see these things in our cultural context today? Is God's response towards this sin the same as we read in verse 20?
- How can we as believers guard ourselves against the sin of idolatry as well as the sin of arrogance and deceit?
- How much do you strive after things that are the secret things of the LORD God? What would it look like to truly trust Him when we don't understand?
- Share your insights about Deuteronomy 30. What is your one big takeaway from this chapter?
- How does the study of chapters 29-30 change your understanding of obedience to God's Word?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 10- "Looking Forward"**-Discussion questions**

- "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear." What would this look like for Israel? On what were they to base their courage? What do you tend to base your courage and strength on when facing difficult challenges? Is God trustworthy? Discuss this.
- What is significant about the instructions to read the Law every 7 years? Is there a principle in that command that carries over to today? If so, is this a principle you employ in your own life?
- The Israelites questioned God's presence with them as they encountered evils and troubles in their lives. Does your heart & mind question God's presence with you when confronted with trials of various kinds? What is the answer for this?
- Just like Israel, we are prone to wander off and forget the LORD our God. How do you deal with your own stubborn and rebellious nature? What encourages your heart towards obedience?
- How do you see the Song of Moses working as a witness against the people as they look and move towards the future?
- Read Deuteronomy 32:47. What does this mean for Israel? For us today?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly this week?

Week 11- "A Prophet Like Moses"**-Discussion questions**

- What have you learned about the character of God as related to His care and provision for Israel? How is the character of God revealed in His care and provision for you today?
- What did the study of Moses' blessings over the 12 tribes reveal to you?
- How have you seen God's faithfulness demonstrated in our study of Deuteronomy? What impact has this made on you in how you view God's Word?
- Why do you think God buried Moses?
- Read Hebrews 3:1-6. Discuss what this passage says about Moses and Jesus.
- Did God raise up another prophet like Moses? What is significant about this Prophet for us today? How is He like Moses? How is He better than Moses?
- What have you learned throughout our study of Deuteronomy that made the most impact on you? What will you do differently as a result of studying this book?
- What aspect of God's character did you see more clearly through this study?

