

With All Your Heart

A study of the Book of Deuteronomy

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Study Time suggestions for this series –

Reflect - As you begin your study time, it is always wise to quiet your heart and mind - to be still. Put aside the details of your life and focus on God who is waiting to meet you and to communicate with you through His Word.

Read - Have your paper and pencil ready so that you can mark down phrases and ideas that seem to be important or interesting or even disturbing to you. What are your observations?

Receive - God has promised that He will open the eyes of your understanding and teach you His truth. He has promised that the Holy Spirit will guide you and give you understanding, so be ready to receive from Him.

Respond - God will not force His way and His will on you. He patiently waits for you to respond to His love by loving and trusting Him with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength. Tell Him your desires and the longings of your heart. Find your solace and your courage in His promises to you.

These study guides have been designed to assist you in the "Three R's" of your own Bible study - reading, receiving, and responding. You are welcome to print out the whole series. If you wish to print out only one lesson at a time, choose that option from your printer. (Page 1 - Table of Contents; page 2 - Lesson 1)

Please feel free to use these materials for your own personal use or with a small group, remembering to give credit where credit is due.

With All Your Heart

A study of the Book of Deuteronomy

Lesson 1

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FOLLOW WHOLEHEARTEDLY

“. . . because he followed the Lord wholeheartedly.” Deuteronomy 1: 36

The Israelites are close to the Promised Land - finally! After almost 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, they are now about to enter into the land which had been promised to Abraham and his descendants. But before they go, Moses has some information on his heart that he wants to pass on to this new generation. He wants them to REMEMBER and NOT FORGET that obedience will bring blessings to them. The first of his three “sermons” is in chapters 1 - 4 and it is a brief summary of the past 39 years. Can you put yourself in the position of one of these men or women as you listen to Moses’ wise and passionate counsel?

REFLECT – As you prepare to study, take time to read Psalm 9: 1 – 2.

How has God led you in the past? What blessings are you experiencing in the present?

READ - The first 3 chapters of Deuteronomy.

If possible, read these 3 chapters in various translations. As you read, remember that Moses is talking to the children of the Israelites who left Egypt, crossed the Red Sea, and chose to believe that the enemy was more powerful than their God, so they did not go directly to the land which God had promised to give to them. Read about this in Numbers 13 and 14.

RECEIVE -

1. What did Moses want this new generation to remember about God, about what He had done for their parents and in the history of their nation - Deuteronomy 1: 3 - 2:15?

What did Moses want them to remember about God through their recent victories? (2:16 - 3:20)

2. What do you think Moses wanted them to know about the choices that their parents and grandparents had made? Do you think this will affect the choices of this generation?
3. There were 2 men who believed God – Caleb and Joshua. What do you think it means to “follow the Lord wholeheartedly” like Caleb did? (Deut. 1: 36 & Num. 13 & 14)
4. Moses suffered the consequences of his actions (Numbers 20: 1 - 13) and was not allowed to lead the people into the promised land. What helped him accept God’s answer of “no”?

RESPOND

1. Think about some times when you have been too fearful or discouraged to move ahead. Think about other times when you have been tempted to “lose heart” (Deut. 1:28), but did not let your feelings overrule God’s promises. What were the results?
2. This same God who redeemed the Israelites from bondage and supplied all of their needs as they traveled to the land that He had promised to them is with you and me today. There were consequences for their choices, but He never abandoned them or gave up on them. Instead He called them to Himself and kept all His promises. What do you think God would like you to know and believe about Him today? Listen to His voice.

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A study of the Book of Deuteronomy

Lesson 2

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TAKE TO HEART

**“But if from there you seek the Lord your God,
you will find Him if you look for Him with all your heart and with all your soul.**

Deuteronomy 4:29

Moses continues his first sermon to the people of Israel just before they cross over into the Promised Land in Chapter 4 of Deuteronomy. He wants this new generation to understand that more than anything else, God desires a relationship with His people - the ones that He chose and redeemed out of slavery in Egypt. He wants them to receive His blessings and all that He has promised to give to them. So Moses earnestly pleads with them to remember the covenant that God has made with them and to keep His commands and follow Him wholeheartedly.

REFLECT – As you quiet your mind and focus on the Lord, read Psalm 86: 11 – 13. You can make this your own prayer by re-writing it in your own words. What are the desires of your heart?

READ - Deuteronomy 4: 1 - 40

Try reading this chapter aloud - as you would if you were giving the sermon.

RECEIVE -

1. Look at verses 1 - 14. Try to summarize this section in your own words.

How do things “slip or depart from your heart”? Can you give an example?
What are practical things you can do to keep this from happening?

2. Study verses 15 - 31. Most of us may not have idols made of wood or stone in our homes, but the temptation to be more dependent on or devoted to something other than God Himself is always a very real temptation. What are the consequences of idolatry?

Can you find the promise made in verse 29? Why would this be important for them to know?

3. Think about verses 32 - 40. What do you learn about God in this passage?
Are there any ideas about God that remind you of what you know about God in the New Testament? (Romans 8: 33 - 39, Ephesians 1: 3 - 14)

4. Verse 39 says “take to heart” or “consider it in your heart”. How do you do this?

RESPOND

1. Where do you find your security, confidence and hope? In what do you find fulfillment and strength? Is there an “idol” in your life that needs to be acknowledged and destroyed? Ask God to show you the things, ideas, people, or dreams that are more important (real) to you than He is.
2. “There is no other.” (Deut. 4: 39) God would love to hear you express to Him the desires of your heart. He sent His Son as the sacrifice for your sin, so that you could be His dear child. What is the response of your heart to that kind of love?

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Lesson 3

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INCLINE YOUR HEART

“Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands, always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!” Deut. 5: 29

Moses is beginning his second sermon in Chapter 5. It is a summary or restatement of the law which had been given to the people of Israel at Mount Sinai 39 years earlier. Now Moses wants this new generation to understand that God's desire is to bless them and to keep His covenant promises to them. The law was given so that they could experience God's love and grace. The second sermon is found in Deuteronomy 5 - 26. Chapters 5 - 11 focus on the people's relationship to God and Chapters 12 - 26 focus on the relationship of the people to the land and other people. Imagine if you can that you are a part of the crowd, eager to hear from Moses about the adventures which are ahead.

REFLECT - How do you feel about God's Word, the Bible? Can you join with the Psalmist as he wrote Psalm 119: 111 - 112? What do these verses bring to your mind and heart? Tell Jesus now!

READ - Deuteronomy 4:44 - 5: 33

Perhaps you would like to go back and read the story that Moses is telling - Exodus 19 & 20.

RECEIVE -

1. Why do you think the Lord came to the Israelites in such a dramatic way (Exodus 19 & 20) and gave to them through Moses the 10 commandments? If you had been 10 years old when this event happened at Mount Sinai and now you are 50 years old, what might be some of your thoughts as you stand with your own children and grandchildren and remember that day?
2. If someone asked you whether or not the Ten Commandments were important for believers today to consider, what would you say?
3. These commandments are often called the *Decalogue* which means "ten words". The most common Biblical name for them is "testimony". Take a clean piece of paper and personalize each one, using "I" and "me" - as if they were directed to you alone.
4. Jesus expanded on the 10 commandments when he taught the crowds on the mountainside and His disciples in Matthew 5 - 7. The circumstances were different than in Moses' time, but is the message any different? Make some comparisons or contrasts.
5. As you ponder Deuteronomy 5: 29 again, what does this verse teach you about the heart of God and His greatest desire for them and for us?

RESPOND

1. Take a look at the 10 mandates from the Lord for walking in His way? Is there one that you and He need to look at more seriously? Is it a problem of action or attitude?
2. "Change my heart, oh God. Make it ever true. Change my heart, oh God. May I be like You." What is the song (prayer) that you want to sing to THE ONE who is wants bless and prosper you?

With All Your Heart

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Lesson 4

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WITH ALL YOUR HEART

**“Love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your strength.”** Deuteronomy 6: 5

Moses has just reviewed a very impacting part of the history of the Israelites - the time when God Himself came to the mountain and gave him the Ten Commandments. How intensely Moses must feel about the need for the people to remember and understand what God has done for them in the past, as well as what he has promised to do for them in the future. This is the God who came to Moses and said, “I AM WHO I AM” - Yahweh (Ex. 3:14) and now he is saying, “Yahweh our God, Yahweh is one.” Pious Jews recite the “*Shema*” (Hebrew - *Hear*), which is Deuteronomy 6: 4 -9, twice daily as part of their prayers. They also had small leather containers which held small scrolls with this passage and Deut. 11: 13 - 21 written on them to wear close to their minds and their bodies.

REFLECT – Begin your study time by reading Psalm 138: 1 – 2. God promises to meet with us when we bow before Him in “heartfelt” praise and adoration. Take time to do this.

READ - Deuteronomy 6.
Copy verses 4 - 25 on a piece of paper and read it every day.

RECEIVE

1. Think about verse 4. Why is this an important and foundational concept? What does this mean? Use some other words to convey various facets of this idea.
2. Wow! There is something more than law in the Old Testament. There is love - a relationship between God and man. There is grace - God is for us. There is an invitation to love. Why do you think that Moses uses heart, soul and strength?
3. This is a commandment that is repeated by Jesus in the New Testament - Matt. 22:34 - 40, Mark 12: 28 - 34 & Luke 10: 25 - 28. What does this add to your understanding of it?
4. Prosperity and comfort bring with them certain temptations, don't they? What is the warning given here? How could they possibly forget what God had done for them? (Story of Massah - vs. 16 - is in Exodus 17: 1 - 7).
5. Find all the references in this chapter to our responsibility to our children and the next generation of “believers”. Why was and is this so very important?

RESPOND -

1. God redeemed the Israelites from bondage, provided for them and promised them a future and now He is inviting them to continue in this love relationship. What has God done for you that calls you into a deepening love relationship with Him?
2. If you have responded to God's invitation of forgiveness and acceptance in Christ (redemption), how are you passing your story on to the next generation?

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Lesson 5

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WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART?

Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep His commands. Deuteronomy 8: 2

As we continue to study Moses' second sermon which he delivered to the Israelites just before they entered the Promised Land, he continues to give them instructions which will ultimately mean their success and happiness or their defeat. The temptations that the Israelites faced are so similar to ones that we face today, and so Moses says, "Remember...." and "Do not forget". Both adversity and prosperity have their own opportunity for trusting and obeying or not doing so.

REFLECT - God already knows the condition of your heart, doesn't He? But He waits for you to come to Him so that He can tenderly reveal His truth to you and then lead you in His way. Take some time to read Psalm 139: 23 - 24 and let Him speak to you.

READ - Deuteronomy 7 and 8 - Try reading it out loud so that you can experience it more fully.

RECEIVE -

1. Give a title to each of these chapters and try to summarize each one briefly.
2. What can you learn about God from these 2 chapters? Find both the adjectives and the ways in which He demonstrated His love to these people - "the ones He chose as His treasured possession". (Deut. 7: 6, 14: 2, 26: 18, Exodus 19: 5, Psalm 135:4, & Malachi 3:17)
3. Deuteronomy 8: 3 is one of the verses that Jesus used when He was facing temptation from Satan in the wilderness. (Matt. 4: 1 - 4 or Luke 4: 1 - 4) What do you think this means?
4. God allowed certain experiences to happen in the desert in order to humble and test His people, in order to know what was in their hearts - vs. 2 and 16. What did this accomplish?
5. Try re-writing Deuteronomy 8: 6 - 18
What do you think "your heart will become proud" means?
What is the result of a proud heart? Does the way you think influence the state of your heart?
6. Here are some more verses about a proud heart.
II Chronicles 32: 20 - 26
Proverbs 16: 5, 18 - 19
Proverbs 21: 4, 24
Psalm 101: 5
Proverbs 18: 12
Luke 1: 46 - 53

RESPOND

1. If you belong to God's family, you also are His "treasured possession". Take some time to consider what this means to you. (Ephesians 1: 3 - 14) Is there any way you can earn this?
2. A proud heart and forgetfulness - what are some ways to avoid these pitfalls for you personally? Talk to the Lord about the condition of your heart today and the desires of your heart.

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Lesson 6

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CIRCUMSIZE YOUR HEART

“Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer.”

Deuteronomy 10:16

Moses has been carefully reminding this generation of Israelites of God’s redemption from Egypt and His provisions and faithfulness to His chosen people – only because of His grace and mercy towards them. He is also clearly presenting the reasons why their parents and grandparents were “stuck” in the wilderness rather than living in the land which was promised to Abraham many years before. Now they have the choice once again. Will they exercise faith or fear, obedience or disobedience and experience victory or defeat? Clearly God is giving us similar choices today!

REFLECT – A prayer for you to consider as you bow before the Lord your God – Psalm 26: 2

READ – Deuteronomy 9 and 10. Be sure to picture in your mind the drama and intensity of these events. The historical record can be found in Exodus 32 – 34. Put yourself in the place of Moses if you can.

RECEIVE –

1. Why do you think the Israelites were so easily intimidated by the size of their enemy?
2. “Stiff-necked” – what a descriptive term. What do you think it means in these contexts?
Deut. 9: 6 & 13 Nehemiah 9: 16 – 17 Jeremiah 19: 15
Deut. 10: 16 Nehemiah 9: 29 - 31
Deut. 31: 26 – 27 Jeremiah 17: 23 Acts 7: 51
Do you think this character trait is common to individuals &/or people groups? Why or why not?
3. God first commanded Abraham to circumcise all of the males among his people as an outward sign of the covenant between them and Himself - Genesis 17: 1 – 14. But God always intended that this outward sign would indicate an inward reality of repentance and faith – a change of heart. How would this have helped the Israelites to remember God’s covenant with them.
4. The Israelites understood clearly some things about circumcision – both physically and spiritually. How do these New Testament passages clarify these terms for you?
Romans 2: 25 – 29 Colossians 2: 9 - 15
Romans 4: 4 – 12
So now what do you think the command to “circumcise your heart might mean? (10:16)
5. Someone has said that “wisdom is understanding how God designed life and then co-operating or living by that design”. What wisdom can you find in Deuteronomy 10: 12 – 22?
Can you create a poster or motto or sign that would remind you of these ideas?

RESPOND –

1. What is the story of your life? Stiff-necked or soft-hearted? There’s a merciful and compassionate God, who will always forgive and strengthen you. Ask Him . . . Trust Him . . .
2. One definition of “circumcise” is “to purify spiritually; cleanse from sin”. (Webster’s Dictionary) Are you ready and willing to let the Holy Spirit clarify what this might mean for your heart?

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Lesson 7

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FIX THESE WORDS IN YOUR HEART

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds . . .

Deut. 11: 18

Moses is concluding the first part of his second sermon with this chapter. He wants to be sure that the Israelites have understood clearly that God desires their love and allegiance. He wants them to demonstrate that love by obedience to His Word and His ways. There has always been one choice - to follow the Almighty God or to choose another god or gods. The same choice is ours today.

REFLECT- Read as much of Psalm 119 as you wish. Let the Psalmist's love of God's Word penetrate your thinking and your spirit. Let the Spirit impress you with the truths He wants you to notice.

READ - Deuteronomy 11.

Read it over several times. If possible, use different Bible translations or paraphrases.

RECEIVE -

1. Moses is addressing the adults who have seen God's "mighty hand and His outstretched arm" and personally know His chastening and His greatness. As you picture this and think about the events listed, what comes to your mind?

Exodus 6: 6 - 8

Exodus 13: 3, 9 - 16

Psalm 136: 10 - 22

Jeremiah 32: 17 - 21

I Peter 5: 6

2. The example of the story of Dathan and Abiram is in Numbers 16. It is a violent story for us to read. Why do you think God acted in this way? It seems that we do not often see sin and pride punished or judged immediately. Do you have any explanation for this?

3. What do you think the connection is between "love and serve" in Deut. 11: 13?

Do you think there is a connection between love and serve and worship? How do they reinforce each other? Think of some examples to illustrate the relationship between each of them.

Deut. 11: 16, 28

Deut. 6: 13

Deut. 10: 20

4. The command to "serve the Lord" is repeated 5 times in Deuteronomy. Look at these verses -

Deut. 6: 13

Deut. 11: 13

Deut. 28: 47 - 48

Deut. 10: 12 & 20-21

Deut. 13: 4

How does the instruction to "fear the Lord" impact the idea of service and love?

5. How do you "fix these words of Mine in your hearts and minds"?

What are the suggestions that the passage gives? Does this apply to us today?

RESPOND -

1. Have you experienced God's mighty hand or outstretched arm in your life? Start a list of your own experiences and add to the list as you recall times when you have seen God's power.
2. The writer of Psalm 119 gives wonderful expression to his love of God's Word. Can you personalize this Psalm and talk to the Lord about your desires to have His Word fixed in your heart and mind and life?

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Lesson 8

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DO NOT BE HARDHEARTED or TIGHTFISTED

"Do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward your poor brother . . . Deut. 15: 7

Moses had been giving the Israelites clear instructions about their relationship to the one and only God in chapters 5 - 11 of Deuteronomy. They were not to be distracted by the gods of the other nations, but they were to love the Lord with all their heart and be careful to obey all of His commands. As Moses continued to talk with them, he moved on to more specific rules and regulations that would help them as they settled into their life in the Promised Land. These rules and regulations would give them a clear identity and provide a basis for not only their religious life but their civic and community needs and life. The principles behind many of these guidelines have not changed, although the circumstances and application will be very different today. The sacrificial and ceremonial regulations were fulfilled in Jesus' death and resurrection!

REFLECT - As you read Psalm 86: 11 - 13, take time to put this prayer and praise into your own words.

READ - Deuteronomy 12 - 26. Make some notes that will help you summarize this section Deuteronomy.

Chapters 12: 1 - 16: 17 - Ceremonial Laws

Chapters 16: 18 - 18: 22 - Civil Laws

Chapters 19: 1 - 21: 9 - Criminal Laws

Chapters 21: 10 - 26: 19 - Social Laws

RECEIVE

1. As you read these 15 chapters, look for & make a list of the following things:

- What are the principles, information, or mandates that cause you to stop and think?
- Are there any references to the condition of your heart? What are they?
- It's O.K. to have questions. It can be difficult to understand the culture of those days and sometimes the answers are not obvious, but God's desire was for purity and holiness.
- What are some of your observations? What do you think the Lord wants you to remember?

2. One of the 4 references to your heart in these chapters is in Chapter 15: 7 - 14.

What does mean to be "hardhearted or tightfisted"? What is a "grudging heart"?

Generosity is a concept that continues on in Scripture. What can you learn from these passages?

Psalm 37: 25 - 26

Romans 12: 8

Psalm 112: 5

II Corinthians 9: 5-11

Proverbs 11: 24 - 25

I Timothy 6: 17 -19

Proverbs 22: 9

3. The rewards for observing these decrees and laws with all their heart and soul are great - Deuteronomy 26: 16 - 19. Keeping the law has never earned any one salvation or eternal life - that is a gift given by God because of His mercy and grace to those who believe. Out of that relationship of love, obedience flows and the promises are abundant. What are some promises that you find most motivating?

John 14: 23 - 24

I John 3: 23 - 24

John 15: 9 - 11

I John 5: 1 - 5

RESPOND - Talk to the Lord about the condition of your heart and hands. Any changes that He is asking you to make? Any risks He wants you to take in His name?

With All Your Heart

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Lesson 9

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CHOOSING FROM THE HEART

**"I have set before you life & death, blessings and curses.
Now choose life . . ."**

Deut. 30: 19

God made a covenant with Abraham to bless him, multiply his seed, and give him the land. Because Abraham believed God it was counted to him for righteousness. (Genesis 15) God made a covenant with Moses and the entire nation of Israel at Mount Sinai. This was a treaty which bound God to His faithfulness and promises to the Israelites, His "special treasure", and gave the people instructions on how they were to live. It was God's loving hand pointing to the way that they should go.(Exodus 19 - 24) Now the next generation of Israelites are about to enter this Promised Land and Moses wants them to confirm their own commitment to this covenant. He lays out the choices that they have to make and pleads with them to obey the Lord, the One who had redeemed them from slavery and oppression. They will have the opportunity at the barren mountaintop of Ebal to recite the curses and to announce the blessings from the green slopes of Mount Gerizim. (Joshua 8: 30 - 35) There in central Canaan the Israelites, under the leadership of Joshua, will be able to renew their commitment to the Lord, who always fulfills His promises.

REFLECT - Join your heart with the Psalmist and praise the Lord, your God - Psalm 28:6 - 8.

READ - Deuteronomy 27 - 30

RECEIVE

1. There is an impressive list of curses and blessings in chapters 27 and 28. Start a list for each, noting what each temptation is and then the contrast of the blessings.

Curses

Idol making

Dishonor parents

Obedience will bring Blessings

Wherever you live

For your children and livestock

Do you think that God's greatest desire is to bless? Why or why not? How does this affect your view of God? What attributes of God stand out to you as you study these passages?

2. A covenant with the Lord is a very serious matter, isn't it? How does Moses convey this idea to the people in Chapter 29? Are there any verses in this chapter that particularly impress you?
3. There are several references to *your heart* in chapter 30. Find each one and rewrite it in your own words. Why do you think Moses keeps referring to the heart of a person after he makes these long lists of how they are to behave and live?
4. What bigger incentive is there than "choosing life"? It's bigger than happiness, wealth, security, fame, or health, isn't it? How about memorizing Deut. 30: 19 - 20a? It would be a good verse to have in mind when temptation comes, wouldn't it?

RESPOND

God is still offering life - through His Son Jesus Christ. The new covenant was made possible through His death and resurrection - John 3: 16 - 21, John 20:31, Romans 6:23.

Talk to the Lord about His gift of eternal life to you and the desires of His heart for you.

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Lesson 10

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SET YOUR HEART

**“Set your hearts on all the words which I testify among you today...
For it is not a futile thing for you, because it is your life...” Deut. 32: 46 - 47 (NKJV)**

There are always some final instructions before you leave home to go on a trip. And so it is with Moses. He knows that his life will soon be over and that Joshua will be his successor - the one who will lead the people over the Jordan River and into the land promised to their forefathers. He has poured out his heart in the 3 addresses we have studied and now he is giving some final charges to the people and a song of instruction and prophecy. Some will listen and take it seriously while others will wander from the One and Only God who redeemed their forefathers from slavery in Egypt and has provided for them throughout their years in the wilderness. Their heart seems to make the difference. Is that still true?

REFLECT – David, the Psalmist, is confident in His God. Are you? After reading Psalm 57, make your own list of reasons why you think that He is trustworthy and the One you want to glorify.

READ - Deuteronomy 31 - 32: 47

RECEIVE

1. As you read Deuteronomy 31: 1 - 29 there are 3 or 4 themes which are repeated by Moses as he gives his final charges to Joshua and to the people. What are they?
2. In Exodus 15 we read another song that Moses sang to the people following the crossing of the Red Sea - a song of thanksgiving and triumph. You may want to read it again.
3. The song of Moses in Deut. 32 is partially a song of praise, but it is also a teaching tool and was to become a reminder in the future of the warnings and instructions which were given to them. Can you think of songs which we have today that are used for teaching? As you think about this passage, try to imagine it as music - how would this affect the audience?
4. What can you learn about the character of God in the song of Moses?

What can you learn about the tendencies or nature of people? Why is this true?

What can you learn about the future of the people of Israel? How have these things come true for them?

5. Write out the concluding statement of Moses - Deut. 32: 46 - 47. Now write it in your own words. What do you think the statement “they are your life” means?
(See also Matt. 4: 1 - 4 & John 6: 60 - 63)

RESPOND

Why don't you write your own “song” (psalm, poem, whatever) of praise to God. Speak of His character and faithfulness, His Word and give yourself some admonitions! Then keep on pondering these things as the days pass by.

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Week 11

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FROM MOSES' HEART – HIS FINAL BLESSINGS

By faith, Moses chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt because he was looking ahead to his reward. By faith . . .

Hebrews 11: 23 - 29

It had to be an emotional time! At the age of 120 years old, Moses was still able to lead and was wise, but in the providence of God it was near to the end of his life. His farewell would not be more instructions and warnings, but a blessing for each of the tribes of Israel. Because all Scripture was written as men were inspired by the Spirit of God, Moses was able to predict the future and to personalize the blessing for each group. The people mourned for Moses. His faith and his faithfulness to his God had made an enormous impact on them. God Himself went with Moses to Mount Nebo where he saw the Promised Land with his own eyes and somewhere in the land of Moab the Lord oversaw his burial. The people were then ready to follow Joshua into the land which the Lord had promised to Moses - Joshua 1: 1 - 9.

REFLECT – Make this your prayer today – Proverbs 3: 5 - 6. God will hear and answer as you seek Him,

READ - Deuteronomy 32: 48 - 34:12

RECEIVE

1. What do you think a blessing really is? Would this affect the way that Moses was remembered? There is a blessing for each of the 12 tribes of Israel in Deut. 33. Make some observations as you read these blessings. (Zebulun and Issachar are in the same verses & Joseph is for his 2 sons - Ephraim & Manasseh).

Why do you think there was such variety in these blessings?

2. As you think about the life of Moses and share in the grief and mourning of the people, what do you think this generation will remember the most? How do these memories influence people?

3. The New Testament talks about Moses in many places. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus referred to the Law of Moses and the prophet Moses. In Acts 7:17 - 53, Stephen reviews the history of the Israelites and reminds the people of Moses' leadership. You may also want to read Hebrews 3: 1 - 6 and 11: 23 - 29. What impresses you from these passages?

4. Moses was chosen by God to accomplish His purposes - Exodus 3: 1 - 15. As you think about his life, what motivated him to "trust and obey", to listen to the voice of God, and to become the leader that God wanted him to be? What did he understand about God that moved him from a place of fear to courage, from weakness to strength, from hesitation to clear proclamations? What kept him faithful and full of faith during those long years in the wilderness?

RESPOND

1. Does this definition of faith help you? "Faith means believing in advance what will only make sense in reverse." (P. Yancey) What is your definition of faith?
2. As you think about the Book of Deuteronomy, what are the most important lessons that God wants you to remember and obey? Let God speak to you about His heart's desires.