

FACING A NEW FUTURE

| A STUDY OF
DEUTERONOMY

Have you ever blown an opportunity? Do you feel like you're on the edge of a new one? In this series, we look at the opportunity God gave to Moses and the Israelites in Deuteronomy and how we can seize the opportunities God has given us.

Week Four: Hungry for Certainty

Text: Deuteronomy 8

Sermon Summary:

During times of uncertainty we realize what we have been relying on for our security because anxiety centers around those areas that are threatened. In these times, can we choose to obey God's commands? Will we prioritize the life we find in Him, alone? Does the certainty of our future with Him matter more than the confusion of our immediate circumstances? How can we find our confidence and security in Jesus, rather than the good but unreliable things of this world?

Discussion Questions: These three larger questions will drive our discussion:

1. What did the Holy Spirit say to you through Sunday's sermon and the associated passage?
2. What are you going to do about it?
3. How can others in the group help you and pray for you so you can do what God told you to do?

What did the Holy Spirit say to you through the sermon?

- What are you struggling with in this time of the pandemic? How much does uncertainty factor into your struggle?
- Do you think that most of your life you've had a sense of security? What do you base your security on?
- Read Deuteronomy 8:2-3. How did God use uncertainty to test and teach the Israelites? How did the test help them understand themselves? What did the teaching show them about God? (To read the whole story, see Exodus 16)

What are you going to do about it?

- Jesus referred to Deuteronomy 8:2-3 in his model prayer (Matt 6:11), during his temptation (Matt 4:4) and when teaching about himself (John 6:48-51). Discuss how you would apply each of these teachings of Jesus to your life in this uncertain time.
- What are some areas where you have placed your hope in something uncertain? How can you transfer your hope to the promises of Jesus? An example might be, "Jesus you promised to never leave me or forsake me so I will invest more in getting to know you in this season rather than focusing on how much I miss my friends." Try to think of at least three areas that apply to you.

How can others in this group help you or pray for you?

- Pray for concerns and issues that were discussed in your meeting.
- Choose partners to check-in with during the coming week to discuss what God is saying to you and pray together.

Possible Applications:

"He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD."

Uncertainty can test and teach us, so that we come to understand ourselves and God better if we are humble and teachable. This week spend some time considering the following:

- How has God been "feeding" you during the pandemic in a way you never experienced before?
- What "word" from God can help sustain you during a season of uncertainty? Find a verse or two from the Bible that particularly speaks to you, and work on memorizing that passage so you can meditate on it whenever you feel hungry for certainty.

MEMORY VERSE

"...for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a jealous God..."

Deuteronomy 6:15a