

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 Five: What Does God Want from Me?

Text: Deuteronomy 10:12-22

Sermon Summary:

The key to certainty in uncertain times is to focus on a certain Sovereign...namely, God. It's normal to think about what we want from God, especially when we face hard times. But the better question is, "What does HE want from ME?" What is our part in our relationship with God? Surprisingly, the answer to that questions is not about keeping a list of rules. God wants an authentic relationship with us. One that is based on His grace and is reciprocal.

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?

- When you think of the question, 'What does God want from me?', what comes to mind?
- Discuss the above question in light of these passages: Micah 6:6-8; 1 Samuel 15:22-23; Amos 5:21-24; Hosea 6:6; and Isaiah 1:10-17.
- What does it mean to "fear the Lord?" (See Deuteronomy 10:12, Proverbs 1:7, and Matthew 10:28.) Why is this the starting point to an authentic relationship with God?
- Tim compared the Ten Commandments to the Bill of Rights, saying the intent was to protect people from being harmed and oppressed by others. How could God's commands actually make life better for us if we all just followed them? See Deuteronomy 5:6-22.

What are you going to do about it?

- If we had a greater fear of God, would we be less afraid of Covid-19 and all that comes with this pandemic?
- Jesus criticized the Pharisees because they reduced their relationship with God to rituals and rules. What are some examples of how we might be missing the heart of God in our own approach to Him?
- What command of God is hard for you to obey? How could obeying it be for your own good? How would you or the people around you thrive if you walked in His ways on that issue?

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:

“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD’s commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?” Deuteronomy 10:12-13

To love God means to choose, favor, and prioritize Him. Love is always expressed in action.

- This week, if you aren’t already doing so, choose to prioritize your relationship with God by spending time with him daily reading the Bible and praying. The gospel of John is a good place to start. Ask God to speak to you before reading a few verses. Make some notes about what he said, then talk to him about it.
- If daily time with God is already part of your routine, find a way to enhance your time. You might start by reviewing the previous day and listing 5 things you are grateful for. Or begin to memorize a passage that has been meaningful to you lately. Be creative.
- Pay attention to anything God is prompting you to do. Make a note of that urging. Then take action and record what happened.

Memory Verse

“He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

Micah 6:8