



JANUARY 3, 2021

LEADER GUIDE

Dive In

- Where did you first learn obedience? From that experience, what has been your overall concept of obeying?

Dig Deep

Choice: The Offer of Life or Death

Read Deuteronomy 30:11-14

"Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it."

- Being obedient to God can be difficult but Moses makes it clear that making the decision to be obedient is not a difficult task. Why does Moses say this and what is his reasoning in this text?

Read Deuteronomy 30:15-18

"See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess."

- What choices are presented by God? What motivates you to obey God?

Read Deuteronomy 30:19-20

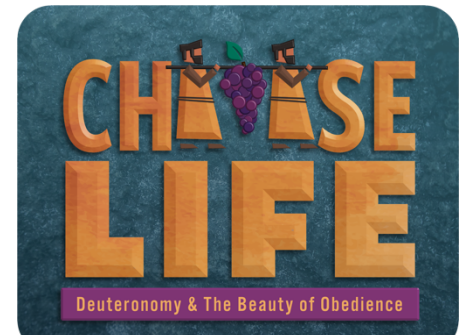
"This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

- Why is obedience important? What issues cause us to resist being obedient to God?

Do Big

For many, we obey because we anticipate some outward reward that may or may not have any relationship to the task at hand. But the obedience talked about in scripture brings blessings of an intrinsic nature.

- How do we learn to obey because of the internal blessings we will receive?
- How will those blessings enrich our lives?



Leaders

Key Words in Deuteronomy 30

Heart – vs. 1,2,6,10,14,17

Command – vs. 2,8,10,11,16

Obey – vs. 2,8,10,12,13,14,17

Life – vs. 15,19,20

Love – vs. 6,16,20

Background

Deuteronomy means "repetition of the law". Moses in three sermons and a song reminds Israel after their 40-year journey they are about to enter the promised land and not to forget their history, all that God has done for them and the laws they had to continue to obey as God's chosen people.

Key thought

An important responsibility of the older generation is to disciple the younger generation in the Word of God and modeling obedience in living these godly principles of life. Moses fulfilled this task superbly. We have this same responsibility today – "And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others." 2 Timothy 2:2