



DISCUSSION GUIDE FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Dive In

We're both chosen image-bearers indwelt by the Holy Spirit AND imperfect, temptation-prone people. Both dust and spirit. Do you relate to one aspect more than the other? Explain.

Dig Deep

Read Scripture: Deuteronomy 7:7-16

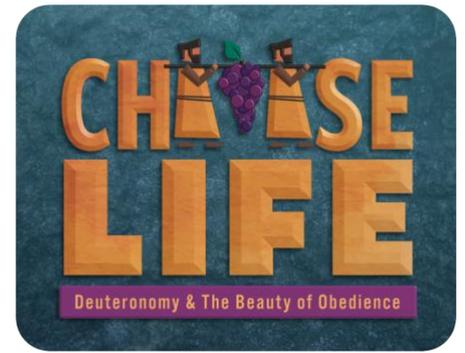
7 The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. **8** But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. **9** Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments. **10** But those who hate him he will repay to their face by destruction; he will not be slow to repay to their face those who hate him. **11** Therefore, take care to follow the commands, decrees and laws I give you today. **12** If you pay attention to these laws and are careful to follow them, then the LORD your God will keep his covenant of love with you, as he swore to your ancestors. **13** He will love you and bless you and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land—your grain, new wine and olive oil—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you. **14** You will be blessed more than any other people; none of your men or women will be childless, nor will any of your livestock be without young. **15** The LORD will keep you free from every disease. He will not inflict on you the horrible diseases you knew in Egypt, but he will inflict them on all who hate you. **16** You must destroy all the peoples the LORD your God gives over to you. Do not look on them with pity and do not serve their gods, for that will be a snare to you.

- Why did God choose the Israelites? Why does God remind them of this? Deuteronomy 7:7-11
- What are the rewards for obedience? What do these rewards reveal about the nature of God? Deuteronomy 7:12-16

Do Big

Do you see evidence of spiritual battles in your daily life (through temptations, the lies of negative self-talk, or in other areas), or is this way of thinking new to you? How can knowing that we are chosen make a difference? What armor (Eph. 6:10-18) do you find most useful against such attacks?

Pray for one another this week to flourish in our identity in Christ.



LEADERS

This chapter deals with:

- Why did God pick us?
- What do we do with the occupying nations?

From Abraham to the exodus, from the desert to the promised land ... God's people are to be a separate people.

- Separation means safety – 7:1-6.
- Separation means blessings – 7:7-16.

Key Thoughts

Obedience vs. Legalism:

Obedience leads to life.

Legalism leads to death.

Obedience reveals a surrendered soul

Legalism reveals a self-righteous soul

Challenge

Even to this day God's people are to live a life of separation. However, separation does not mean isolation.

Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; Matthew 5:14-16

Weekly Memory Verse

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light." 1 Peter 2:9

