



DISCUSSION GUIDE JUNE 20, 2021

Dive In

What is one area where you've been making small, faithful steps in the same direction? Have the steps become easier? What is one area where you'd like to improve? What's the virtue you can focus on in this area (e.g., practicing gratitude to combat jealousy or trust to counter worry)?

What does it mean to be obedient? Can we be partly obedient or is it only obedience if it's complete? (Can you be "mostly faithful" to your spouse or "mostly honest" in your speech and be considered a faithful or honest person?)

Dig Deep

Scripture: **Deuteronomy 27:1-8**

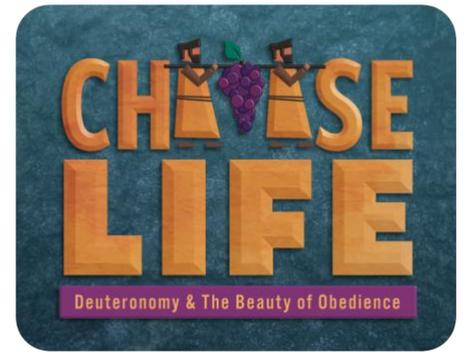
1 Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people: "Keep all these commands that I give you today. 2 When you have crossed the Jordan into the land the LORD your God is giving you, set up some large stones and coat them with plaster. 3 Write on them all the words of this law when you have crossed over to enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you. 4 And when you have crossed the Jordan, set up these stones on Mount Ebal, as I command you today, and coat them with plaster. 5 Build there an altar to the LORD your God, an altar of stones. Do not use any iron tool on them. 6 Build the altar of the LORD your God with fieldstones and offer burnt offerings on it to the LORD your God. 7 Sacrifice fellowship offerings there, eating them and rejoicing in the presence of the LORD your God. 8 And you shall write very clearly all the words of this law on these stones you have set up."

- What reminders were the Israelites to set up after they cross the Jordan river and why?
- What living (Hebrews 4:12) reminders of God's word do you purposely seek each day?
- In these reminders, what are you faithfully doing to obey God's word more and more with each passing day?

Do Big

Given your answers in the "Dive In" section, what specific things can you do for one another to encourage faithful steps in the right direction? How can you keep the Word before one another this week?

Commit to obedience in an area where you feel weak. Each day this coming week, put God's Word about this struggle in front of you (post-it on your mirror, screensaver, or dashboard, etc.,). When you see it, pray for the virtue you wish to cultivate. Report on your progress to the group. Did keeping the Word before you help?



LEADERS

Study Text:

Deuteronomy 27:1-28:14

Background:

Moses was joined with the elders (vs.1) and the priests (vs.9) when announcing the covenant to the people. Moses was leaving them soon, but the nation would continue to operate under God's authority with civil and religious leaders.

A ceremony of reaffirming the covenant was to take place near Shechem, with Mt. Ebal to the north and Mt. Gerizim to the south. The valley formed between these two mountains formed a natural amphitheater where God's covenant was to be heard and affirmed by God's people.

Twelve curses (27:9-26) were announced and were to be affirmed (amen, "so be it") acknowledging the Israelites were to be chastened if they disobey.

The blessings (28:1-14) were God's promises of faithfulness if they were faithful in obedience to God's word.

