

Bible Studies

Living by Faith Under God's Promises

1. How to live God's way (Deut 5, Lk 6:1-11)
2. How to love and fear God (at the same time!) (Deut 6, Jn 14:15-21)
3. How to relate to the world around us (Deut 7, 1 Pet 2:9-12)
4. How to stay Christian (Deut 8, 2 Tim 3:10-17)

Study 1

“Christianity is all about keeping rules and regulations”. Discuss

1. Read Deut 5. What are your initial reactions? Where do you see evidence of God's grace in this chapter?
2. What is the context (historical and biblical) to Deut 5? How does that help us to interpret the importance and meaning of the commandments?
3. How might you divide up the 10 commandments? Are there any useful categories you can identify?
4. How should we Christians think about the 10 commandments? Are we bound to keep them? Why, or why not? How might you explain them to an unbeliever?
5. By nature, are you a legalist (always trying to keep rules) or a libertarian (always looking for loopholes)? Why? What does Deut 5 have to see about each extreme? How might Eph 2:1-10 shape your thinking?
6. Pray!

Study 2

“How would you describe God?” What 3 words would you choose, and why? What would the unbelievers whom you know say?

1. Read Deut 6. What are your initial reactions?
2. What does it mean to love God with all your “heart, soul and strength”? What are some examples of this type of love in action?
3. How does Jesus take and apply this principle in Lk 10:25-37? When do you find it hard to do as Jesus says? What would help motivate you? What practical action might you commit to in the week ahead?
4. Look at Deut 6:6-9. What’s the connection between “loving God” and “keeping His commands”? What’s the point about God’s commands? How might you do this for yourself?
5. Look at Jn 14:15-21. How does this BOTH explain Deut 6:4 AND show how we can be empowered to keep God’s commands?
6. Pray!

Study 3

1. Read Deut 7:1-6. How do you react?! What would you say if an unbeliever asked you about this? What might you NOT say?!
2. Why shouldn’t we Christians intend to re-enact Deut 7:1-6 today?
3. In which contexts might 2 Cor 6:14-20 apply to Christians today? What could motivate and enable us to “walk away” if we needed to?
4. How does 1 Pet 2:9-12 help us to understand the nature of our relationship with the world around us? What is challenging about this? What would make it easier to live this way?
5. Share about someone you are praying to become a Christian (and then pray for them too!)

Study 4

1. What's your personal bible reading plan? Why is it like that? What would you like it to be like? What's worked (and what hasn't worked)?
2. Read Deut 8. What's the big danger which the Israelites are being warned about? (hint: look at v14!) In what way is this a risk or challenge for you?
3. Look at v5. Are there examples of this in your life? What would help you to want God's discipline? What's holding you back?
4. Look at vv17-18. Are you tempted to think this way? Brainstorm all the different ways you might get rid of this thinking from your life!
5. Look at vv7-9. Write a list of at least 25 things which God has blessed you with, then share it with each other, and praise God in prayer!