

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

TOGETHER: REMEMBERING ***EXPERIENCES THAT INFORM OUR FUTURE***

Like the Israelites in the desert heading toward the Promised Land, we are a faith community heading into a promised future. In this series, **Together: Remembering Experiences that Inform Our Future** we will learn from the Israelites' story, found in the Book of Deuteronomy, about what they were called to remember in order to follow God well. This week, we focus on remembering that God gave us commands that are best for us.

#1

Review: In the last week, have you remembered any more significant scenes in your life where God taught you something that continues to inform your future? And how are you doing at possessing the land where God wants you to be a **BLESSING** to others.

3 PEOPLE GOD WANTS YOU TO PRAY FOR TO KNOW JESUS
2 PEOPLE GOD WANTS YOU TO HELP GROW IN JESUS
1 PERSON TO HELP YOU STAY FOCUSED ON JESUS

#2

What are some of the covenant/treaty relationships you have with others (formal or informal)? Which ones do you have more authority in and not? What are the consequences and benefits that come with these relationships?

#3

The book of Deuteronomy is actually written in a **vassal treaty** form between God and the Israelites. In his blog, Russ Meek wrote:

It is crucial to note that the covenant Yahweh made with Israel was of his own initiative. Their loyal obedience—the proper response to the covenant relationship—was required, but it was not the basis of the covenant. The basis of the covenant was Yahweh's gracious acts toward Israel, not their obedience to him.

What does this say to you about God's character, as well as Israel's and our response? How does this enhance or hinder your view of God? How did the treaty with us change when Jesus died and rose for us?

#4

Review the 10 Commandments in **Deuteronomy 5:6-21**. Note that the first 4 are about loving God and the last 6 are about loving others (similar to Jesus' summary in **Mark 12:28-30**). If you had to convey to a friend why God gave these to the Israelites, what would you say? And what would you say to them regarding the 10 Commandments' relevance in your life today?

#5

Some would summarize that the commandments were given in love for liberation and longevity. What does that line mean to you? (For similar and further reasons given, see passages: **Deuteronomy 5:29, 6:2, 6:18, 7:9, 8:19-20**). How have you seen that following God's best ways for us brings life to you or another when obeyed? And brings death when they have been disobedient?

#6

Which of the commandments in **Deuteronomy 5:6-21** do you need strength to live into more, so that you experience God's power and liberation more? Who could support you in this process and pray for you?

NEXT STEPS

Recite **Deuteronomy 6:4-9**—The Shema—day and night, replacing "Israel" with your name or family's name. Watch [this short video](#) about The Shema.

Follow the [Weekly Listening/Reading Plan for Deuteronomy](#) (Chapters 9-12, by 10/03)

Join a [Deuteronomy Group](#).

Engage in PCC's [Wednesday Noon Zoom Prayer](#) for 30 minutes.

Place a memory of God on the "Wall of Remembrance" in the back of the Worship Center.