

Study
LifeGroup Lesson
March 19, 2017
Deuteronomy 11:18-21

OPENING PRAYER:

Holy and good Creator, we rejoice that you are the God who communicates. You are the One who wrote upon tablets of stone and who writes the divine word upon our hearts and minds. Prepare us now to hear, study and obey your word. May it penetrate deeply and move us to respond to your Spirit. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree/disagree with the LifeTalk this week?
- Recall ways that God has spoken to you through the Bible at different moments in your life. Describe one for the group.

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

This week's verses come in the context of the entire chapter. Read Deuteronomy 11.

- What jumps out at you in this scripture?
- If you imagine God speaking with you today, what commands might you receive? Which of these verses speak to your station in life?
- God gives these words to help Israel avoid temptation, how can scripture help you in your life to avoid temptation?

For fifty-seven years prior to King Josiah's reign, God's Word had been neglected. Read 2 Kings 22:1-23:7.

- How does Josiah's commitment to the Scriptures affect the nation of Judah?
- How does Huldah's prophecy speak to you?
- Which character(s) do you identify with in this passage? Why? (Josiah, the people, etc.)
- What practical step can you take to make God's Word more central in your life?

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

- How do these verses relate to the spiritual discipline of *Study*?
- What wisdom is Paul relaying to your life?
- Write your own prayer based upon v. 16-17.

The secret of effective Bible study is knowing how to ask the right questions: (the following questions may be helpful)

- What is the main subject of this passage?
- Who are the persons revealed in this passage? Who is speaking? About whom is he speaking? Who is acting?
- What is the key verse of this passage?
- What does this passage teach me about the Lord Jesus Christ?
- Does this passage portray any sin for me to confess and forsake?
- Does this passage contain any command for me to obey?
- Is there any promise for me to claim?
- Is there any instruction for me to follow?

Writing these on a card and keeping them with your Bible can be helpful with any part of the Scripture that you are studying.

CLOSING POSSIBILITIES:

- How will your life be different based upon what you have learned in this week's scripture, lesson and/or LifeTalk?
- How can the group pray for you this week?

NEXT STEPS:

- What practical step can you take to make the Word of God more central in your life and daily activities?
- Choose one of the following Bible study tools and commit to study your Bible: www.lectio-divina.org, Martin Luther's *Garland of Prayer*. (Read, Why Should I Give Thanks?; What Does it Cause Me to Regret?; What Will I Ask or Petition?) or, another resource of your choosing.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

It is not you that shapes God,

it is God that shapes you.

If you are the work of God,

await the hand of the artist who does all things in due season.

Offer him your heart, soft and tractable, and keep the form

in which the artist has fashioned you.

Let your clay be moist, lest you grow hard and lose the imprint of his fingers.

--Attributed to St. Irenaeus