

Foundations Devotional

• FOR THE WEEK OF OCT 18 - OCT 24 •

MONDAY // DEUTERONOMY 8-9

As Moses continued in his speech to the Israelites, he warned them of the temptation to forget about God and their need for Him. Moses knew, as is true for us also, that when things are going well in life, it's easy to forget about our total dependency on God. Remembering God's great acts of deliverance from the past would be a way to keep their need for Him at the forefront of their minds. Moses also reminded the Israelites that they were undeserving recipients of God's grace, and the golden calf episode was a glaring reminder of that truth. God's grace in their lives was based on His righteousness alone, as it is for God's children today. As the apostle Paul points out, "He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor. 5:21).

TUESDAY // DEUTERONOMY 30-31

Deuteronomy 30 paints a vivid picture of God's mercy and grace against the rebellious heart of humanity—despite their patterns of rebellion. God promised to remain faithful to His covenant people. In Deuteronomy 30:11-20, Moses summarized the choice every person faces: the choice of life or death. Moses challenged the people to "choose life," that is, to choose for themselves the path of life and blessing instead of the path of selfishness that leads to death. With that reminder, Moses handed the torch of leadership over to Joshua. Even for believers who have God's promise of forgiveness and eternal life, walking with Christ involves a continual, conscious choice of right over wrong, faithful obedience over selfish disobedience. Like the Israelites, we are called to choose the path of life.

WEDNESDAY // DEUTERONOMY 32:48-52; 34

The last chapters of Deuteronomy report Moses' final actions before passing the leadership baton to Joshua. Up to the very end of his life, Moses sought to live out the calling the Lord had given him at the burning bush. The Book of Deuteronomy ends with a description of Moses as a leader and prophet who had a relationship with God unlike any other. From the time of Moses, God's people looked forward to another Prophet who would come after Moses. Jesus Christ ultimately fulfilled that expectation. As Hebrews 3 tells us, Jesus is the true Savior who provided a way of redemption from sin, established the new covenant through His death on the cross for our sins, and thus had a greater glory than Moses.

THURSDAY // JOSHUA 1-2

After Moses' death, God instructed Joshua to prepare the Israelites to enter the promised land. As Joshua faced the greatest challenge of his life, God reassured him of His continuing presence and challenged the new leader to show courage and to carefully follow God's instructions. In preparation for entering Canaan, Joshua sent two men to scout the city of Jericho. The men found refuge from Rahab, a prostitute whose house was located on the city wall. Rahab heard about the God of the Israelites and understood He was unique, and that motivated her to action. Before the Israelites even entered Canaan, God was making His glory known among the people there. Rahab not only expressed her faith in God verbally, but she acted in ways that demonstrated her faith in God was genuine. Hebrews 11:31 points to Rahab as an example of heroic faith.

FRIDAY // JOSHUA 3-4

Joshua 3-4 describe the moment the Israelites had been waiting for since they crossed the Red Sea and escaped the Egyptians: finally crossing into the promised land. After a 40-year diversion because of their unfaithfulness, the time finally came. Just as God miraculously enabled them to cross the Red Sea, He again enabled them to cross the Jordan River on dry land. The two river crossings show God's consistent presence with and protection of His people. After they crossed, Joshua instructed one man from each tribe to gather a stone to build a memorial. That memorial served as a reminder of God's faithfulness and power for the Israelites and future generations. God continues to work miracles in the lives of His children today, not the least of which is the gift of salvation that none of us deserve. Taking the time to reflect on God's gifts and miraculous works is a vital part of a relationship with Him.

WEEKEND // FINISH UP ANY YOU DIDN'T DO
