

Lesson Summary

This lesson from Deuteronomy addresses a central question: how should God’s people live as they enter a new season, surrounded by a culture that does not follow Him? After forty years of wandering, Israel stands ready to enter the Promised Land. Deuteronomy gathers and applies what God has already revealed, showing that His commands are not burdensome but are given for their good, leading to a life of joy, purpose, and blessing.

The lesson highlights three key areas: how we love, how we give, and how we define ourselves. God’s love is the foundation—He loves first, and His people are called to reflect that love to others, especially those in need. Giving is presented not as a duty alone, but as a joyful, generous lifestyle that supports worship, celebration, and care for others. Finally, identity is not merely individual but corporate—we are a people, called to live in relationship, reflecting the relational nature of our Triune God.

Deuteronomy reminds us that obedience is not about restriction, but about choosing life. When we understand God’s love and follow His ways, we discover that His commands lead to the most fulfilling life possible.

Ice-breaker Question

When you hear the word “rules,” do you tend to think of restriction or protection? Why?

Discussion Questions for a Group; Journal Questions for Individual Study

1. Why does Deuteronomy emphasize applying what God has already revealed rather than introducing new information?
2. How does understanding that God loves first change the way we approach loving others?
3. What does the story of the Good Samaritan reveal about who our “neighbor” is?
4. How does Deuteronomy’s teaching on giving challenge common attitudes about money and generosity?

5. Why is it important to see ourselves not only as individuals, but as part of a people or community of God?

6. How can relationships within the Christian community help us live out what we learn from the Bible?

Life Application Suggestions, consider and respond

1. Take time this week to reflect on and thank God for specific ways He has shown His love to you.

2. Look for one practical opportunity to show compassion to someone in need.

3. Evaluate your approach to giving. Consider how it might become more joyful, generous, and intentional.

4. Make an effort to deepen relationships within your Christian community through conversation, shared meals, or acts of service.

Prayer Focus

Thank God for His love and for giving guidelines that lead to life and joy. Pray for a heart that loves others as He loves, gives generously, and lives in meaningful relationship with His people.