

Listen, watch, or read the sermon on the website if you missed it. Turn to the back for an outline of the sermon.

Ice Breaker: Can you think of a defining moment in your life where you had to choose whether or not to obey?

1. Share something you learned from your personal Bible study this week.
2. It is often tempting to think of God's commandments as unnecessary rules and limitations on our lives, but this is not the case. What reasons does Moses give to obey God's commandments in Deuteronomy 4:1, and verses 6-8?
 - a. Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible, and it contains hundreds of praises for God's commandments. Briefly look through the chapter and select a verse to share with the group that stands out to you. What can we learn from this about obedience to God's word (about our attitude, reasoning, benefits of obedience, or anything else)?
 - b. What would you say to someone who says obedience to rules is unnecessary because our sins are forgiven through faith in Christ? Consider Romans 6:1-4 and 1 John 2:1-6.
3. The message pointed out that Moses appealed to God's faithfulness to the people as a means of encouraging them to obey (vv 9-14).
 - a. Why is it important to remember the past experiences of God's faithfulness in light of our own obedience/disobedience?
 - b. What can you identify from your own testimony that demonstrates the faithfulness of God and encourages you to obey his word?
 - c. What obligation do we have to tell others of the benefits and requirements of obeying God? Consider Deuteronomy 4:6-10.
4. God does not only command obedience to him, but also to earthly authority. Read Romans 13:1-7 and discuss the following:
 - a. Why do we have to obey the government?
 - b. What implications do these verses have on obeying laws with which we do not agree, or a supervisor we do not like?
 - c. Given this, what is our spiritual responsibility towards our government?
5. There are very real consequences of disobedience to God. What are the consequences that are given in the following passages?
 - a. Deuteronomy 4:3, Amos 2:4-5, Psalm 1:5-6, Romans 6:23, Galatians 5:19-21
 - b. While consequences to sin are very real, we must always remember the truth found in 1 John 1:9. Consider the love of a God who will forgive if we only confess and repent!
 - c. Personal application: In what area are you being disobedient to God? Take a moment to claim the promise of forgiveness of sin and bask in the joy of obedience.

Sermon Idea: "Obedience to the teachings of the Bible is our part in covenant relationship with God."

I. When we trust and obey the Word of God we experience great blessings. (vv 1-4)

- A. Obedience to God's statutes and rules would help them live. (v 1)
- B. Obedience to God's statutes and rules would help them take the land that God had given them. (v 1)
- C. Obedience to God's statutes and rules meant they were not to alter what God had said. (v 2)
- D. They were to remember the tragic lesson of their recent disobedience at Beth-Peor. (vv 3-4)

II. When we trust and obey the Word of God we are witnesses of God's grace. (vv 5-8)

- A. Israel would be a testimony to the nations because they discerned how to apply the knowledge of God. (v 6)
- B. Israel would be a testimony to the nations because of God's intimate relationship with them. (v 7)
- C. Israel would be a testimony to the nations of the glory of God through the power of His Word. (v 8)

III. When we remember God's faithfulness we are refueled for obedience. (vv 9-14)

- A. They were to take the utmost care to remember God's history in keeping covenant with them.
 - 1. To do this they must keep the memory of God's covenant in their heart. (v 9)
 - 2. To do this them must transfer it to future generations. (v 9)
- B. They were to remember how God gave His law at Mount Horeb. (vv 10-14)
 - 1. God gave Israel His Word so they would learn to fear Him. (v 10)
 - 2. God gave Israel His Word so they would teach the future generations to fear Him. (v 10)
 - 3. God revealed Himself through His Word. (vv 11-12)
 - 4. God revealed His covenant through His Word. (v 13)
 - 5. God taught His people through Moses' proclamation of God's Word. (v 14)