

March 2
Adults and Next Gen
Lesson 9

2025
CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE

**HOW DOES GOD
BLESS HIS PEOPLE?
Numbers 6:22-27**

HOW DOES GOD BLESS HIS PEOPLE? Numbers 6:22–27

MAIN IDEA

The Lord blesses His people with His protection, presence, and peace.

OUTLINE

Weekly Reading Recap

Era Overview

Introduction

1. The Lord Blesses His People With His Protection (Numbers 6:24, p. 200)

- God promised the Israelites physical protection.
- God promises Christians persecution and spiritual protection.

2. The Lord Blesses His People With His Presence (Numbers 6:25, p. 200)

- God delighted in being with the Israelites even though they were unfaithful.
- God delights in being with Christians and gives them His presence every moment of the day.

3. The Lord Blesses His People With His Peace (Numbers 6:26, p. 200)

- God always paid attention to the Israelites.
- To experience God's peace, Christians should:
 - Reject the world's false promises.
 - Accept Jesus' trustworthy promises.

Redemption Thread

Call to Action (Determine which false promise you believe and replace it with one of Jesus' promises.)

Conclusion

Special Note

This Life Group series draws from the work of Iva May and her team at Chronological Bible Teaching Ministries Inc. Foundational concepts such as dividing the Bible into 14 Eras, the Redemption Thread, and understanding how God speaks, acts, and reveals Himself in each era come directly from her work. We are thankful for her willingness to allow us to utilize her

14 Era framework and concepts to create these lessons. Our aim with this series is to encourage participants to read the Bible chronologically, but it is not intended to replace or replicate the comprehensive work of Iva and her team. For more resources on reading the Bible chronologically, we highly recommend visiting chronologicalbibleteaching.com.

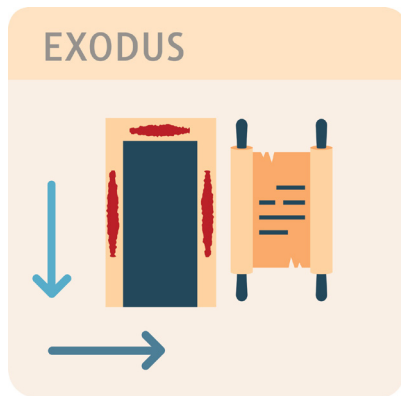


WEEKLY READING RECAP

Our reading this week finished the book of Leviticus. (You made it!) These last chapters discussed multiple festivals the Lord established for His people, each with its own meaning and instructions. They included Passover, the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Firstfruits, the Festival of Harvest, the Festival of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Festival of Shelters. The regulations for the Year of Jubilee were also discussed. We began reading the book of Numbers and learned of multiple other instructions God gave, such as how the Israelite camp should be divided, the duties of Levitical clans, and the Nazirite vow.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. God often commanded His people to rest and reflect on His goodness through the Sabbath or a festival. Why is resting and remembering God's great works important for His people?



ERA OVERVIEW

Leader, our lesson today takes place during the Exodus Era. Utilizing pages A15 in your Chronological Bible, briefly review the Exodus Era.

INTRODUCTION

The word “bless” is thrown around in our society as casually as a father and son throw a baseball in their front yard. When someone sneezes, we say, “God bless you.” When someone asks how you’re doing, a common response is, “I’m blessed.” In the South, when someone makes a questionable clothing choice on a Sunday morning, many Christian ladies will lean to their neighbor and quietly whisper, “Bless her heart,” to express disapproval without sounding mean. (Fun fact: We say, “God bless you,” because people used to believe that sneezes threw people’s souls from their bodies, leaving them open to an attack from evil spirits. The phrase was used as a shield against evil attacks.)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you most often use the word “bless”?
2. What does it mean to be blessed by God?

Ask someone to read Genesis 1:27-31 (p. 8, Creation Era).

God’s blessing consists of:

1. Relationship—God communicated to people and connected with them.
2. Purpose—God gave people the responsibility to fill the Earth and reign over it.
3. Providence—God provided every good thing His people needed to thrive.

Even though people actively turned away from God’s blessing, God reestablished His relationship with people through the law and tabernacle. In our lesson today we will see how the Lord desires to accomplish His blessing upon His people through the high priest, Aaron.

THE LORD BLESSES HIS PEOPLE WITH HIS PROTECTION (Numbers 6:24, p. 200)

God promised the Israelites physical protection.

Ask someone to read Numbers 6:22-24 (p. 200).

The Hebrew word for “protect” is *šāmar*, which means “to keep, guard, observe.” Aaron was to ask the Lord to watch over and protect the people. This was a practical prayer as the ancient Israelite people spent much of their history surrounded by enemies.

In Deuteronomy 28:7 (p. 262) God promised Israel that if they obeyed Him, He would defeat all their enemies. God made it clear to His people that He was the only one who could provide them security.

New Testament Believers—God promises Christians persecution and spiritual protection.

Does God promise that we will have physical safety in our lives?

Ask someone to read 2 Timothy 3:12 (p. 1,237, Missions Era).

God promised that Christians will experience persecution *because* of their devotion to Him. This promise is often overlooked because of Christianity’s historical influence on our society. However, this prominence and peace seems to be coming to an end, and Christians are beginning to experience persecution because they believe in “Biblical Truth,” which is one of Bellevue’s values.

Does that mean that Christians should not pray for protection? Of course not. When Peter was thrown in jail by King Herod Agrippa, the church prayed earnestly for him. As a result, God miraculously freed Peter from prison so he could continue to preach the Gospel (Acts 12:1-18, p. 1,128-1,131, Missions Era).

While God may not promise physical protection to Christians, He offers us a much greater promise.

AS A CHRISTIAN, YOU DO NOT NEED TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR TEMPORARY PHYSICAL SAFETY BECAUSE GOD HAS PROMISED TO PROTECT YOU SPIRITUALLY FOREVER.

Ask someone to read John 10:28–29 (p. 1,052, Gospel Era).

Ask someone to read 2 Thessalonians 3:3 (p. 1,148, Missions Era).

God promises to spiritually protect us from Satan and ensure that we can't be snatched away from His presence. As a Christian, you do not need to worry about your temporary physical safety because God has promised to protect you spiritually forever.

The Apostle Paul understood this truth as he faced execution for His faithfulness to the Gospel.

Read 2 Timothy 4:18 (p. 1,237, Missions Era).

Paul understood that any pain and persecution he experienced in this life was insignificant compared to the eternal glory and safety he would experience in heaven in the presence of his Lord.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why does God allow His people to experience persecution?
2. Is your heart similar to Paul's concerning persecution? If not, how come?
3. What are sacrifices Bellevue members may have to make to stand for biblical truth?

THE LORD BLESSES HIS PEOPLE WITH HIS PRESENCE (Numbers 6:25, p. 200)

God delighted in being with the Israelites even though they were unfaithful.

Ask someone to read Numbers 6:25 (p. 200).

When a bride and groom see each other on their wedding day, they are filled with absolute joy. As the bride glides down the aisle toward her groom, they both light up in the other's presence, and their faces reveal the joy they feel in their hearts.

EVEN THOUGH GOD'S PEOPLE STRUGGLED WITH TURNING AWAY FROM HIM, HE STILL DELIGHTED IN BEING THEIR GOD.

God radiates the same joy when He is in the presence of His people. He looked down on the Israelites joyfully and was there for them when they needed Him. He did not dwell with them begrudgingly but joyfully. God truly delights in being with His people.

This is striking when we realize that Aaron and the people committed idolatry against the Lord only recently at the base of Mount Sinai.

Ask someone to read Exodus 32:2–4 (pp. 140–141).

Even though God's people struggled with turning away from Him, He still delighted in being their God. That is truly a gracious response.

This blessing also exists for Christians today.

New Testament Believers—God delights in being with Christians and gives them His presence every moment of the day.

Ask someone to read 1 Peter 2:9 (p. 1,252, Missions Era).

THE LORD DOES NOT LOOK ON YOU WITH SORROW BUT REJOICES OVER YOU WITH JOYFUL SONGS.

Even though we were God's enemies, we no longer have to cower in the darkness because God has pulled us into the light of His presence. Because we are His possession, we have no reason to worry—He has promised to be with us every step of the way. God is not sitting on His throne glowering in our direction and waiting for us to mess everything up just to say, "I knew you'd get it wrong." In fact, it's the opposite:

Read Zephaniah 3:17 (p. 766, Divided Kingdom Era).

The Lord is not distant from you, but He is with you. The Lord does not glower at you but delights in you with gladness. The Lord does not look on you with sorrow but rejoices over you with joyful songs.

God blesses you with His presence every single moment of the day.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In 1 Peter 2:9 Christians are described as God's "chosen people" and His "special possession." How does knowing that God delights in you affect your relationship with Him?
2. Considering the Old and New Testament passages we just discussed, how does the consistency of God's joy toward His people encourage you in your relationship with Him?

THE LORD BLESSES HIS PEOPLE WITH HIS PEACE (Numbers 6:26, p. 200)

God always paid attention to the Israelites.

Ask someone to read Numbers 6:26 (p. 200).

The NIV version reads, “The LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

Every parent has experienced their young child constantly demanding them to turn their face and watch something amazing they want to show off. Whether it’s sticking something up their nose, jumping into the pool, or doing the splits, the child will say, “Hey, Mom. Mom. Mom. Mom. MOM. Watch this!”

The Israelites were often surrounded by other cultures in which people believed they had to do extreme acts to get their gods to notice them. During the Divided Kingdom Era, God’s people turned their backs on the Lord and followed Baal, a pagan idol. So the prophet Elijah set up a challenge for the prophets of Baal.

Ask someone to read 1 Kings 18:22–29 (p. 554, Divided Kingdom Era).

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BEG OR BARGAIN FOR GOD TO TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU—HE DESIRES TO GIVE YOU HIS FAVOR.

Baal’s prophets were desperate for their god to turn their face toward them. They danced, shouted, and even cut themselves to get their god’s attention. But it was all done in vain.

Ask someone to read 1 Kings 18:36–38 (p. 555, Divided Kingdom Era).

Because God always turns His attention to His people, Elijah didn’t have to beg God to look his way. Instead Elijah was filled with peace and confidence because he knew God was with him, hearing everything he said.

New Testament Believers

Every person desires to be known and seen, especially by the God of the universe. When God gives you His attention, you are receiving His favor.

However, you do not need to beg or bargain for God to turn His face toward you—He desires to give you His favor. He wants to know you and hear from you. He is not a cold and aloof father who is only interested in what you can achieve, but He genuinely cares about who you are. He is not consumed with what you can offer Him but desires to give you good gifts.

What does God desire to give you? His peace. (Philippians 4:6–7, p. 1,221, Missions Era)

In a world filled with 24-hour news, nonstop social media alerts, economic uncertainty, and political upheaval, is it possible to experience peace?

The Hebrew word for peace is *shalom*. This term implies more than the absence of conflict; it means to be made whole or complete. Where do our fears come from? Often they stem from something we perceive that we lack. We fear the future because we lack enough information to know what will happen. We are fearful concerning our finances because we lack funds. We fear failure because we believe our worth depends on our achievements, which never seem to be enough.

REMEMBERING THAT JESUS IS WITH YOU AND COMING BACK WILL FILL YOU WITH A PEACE YOU DON’T UNDERSTAND AS YOU FACE TRIALS IN YOUR LIFE.

In response to these fears:

- We seek to control every detail and person in our lives—only to find that we can never prepare for the unexpected.
- We work constantly to create more zeros in our account—only to discover that there are never enough.
- We constantly seek to achieve something greater—only to realize that our achievements become irrelevant over time.

None of those efforts lead to *shalom* because none of them can make you whole or complete. Jesus promised in John 14:27 (p. 1,087, Gospel Era), “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give.” How do you experience Jesus’ promise of peace?

Reject the World’s False Promises

As Jesus said, the world cannot bring you peace. Money will disappear. Time will run out. Storms will destroy your possessions. Knowledge will be incomplete. Yet, because there are things we can see that make us *feel* safe, our hearts are tempted to put our trust in those things when we’re not paying attention. To combat this temptation, you must actively reject your natural inclination to put your hope and trust in anything the world offers.

Accept Jesus’ Trustworthy Promises

In the next verse, John 14:28a (p. 1,087, Gospel Era), Jesus said, “Remember what I told you: I am going away, but I will come back to you again.” In Matthew 28:20b (p. 1,109, Gospel Era) Jesus also promised, “I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

After rejecting the world’s false promises, you must actively believe Jesus’ promises. Remembering that Jesus is with you and coming back will fill you with

a peace you don't understand as you face trials in your life. When you grasp the significance of those promises, you will realize you have no reason to fear and you will experience God's *shalom*.

REDEMPTION THREAD

The full expression of experiencing God's peace is repenting of your sin and accepting Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

Ask someone to read Romans 5:1 (p. 1,175, Missions Era).

We learned in Lesson 1 that God reveals His goodness through creation. Because of Adam and Eve's sin in the Creation Era, God's law requires that a penalty must be paid, and we've discovered that the blood of the innocent must be shed on behalf of the guilty. When we trust Jesus in faith, we are made right with God legally. We are no longer enemies with Him, but we are at peace with Him. Our guilt and shame concerning our sin are completely erased, and we can confidently enter God's presence. One day, during the End and New Beginning Era, God will establish His new heaven and Earth, and we will physically experience the complete expression of His *shalom*. God always reveals His goodness and desires to bless His people no matter which era they live in.

Ask someone to read Revelation 21:3-4 (p. 1,285, End and New Beginning Era).

CALL TO ACTION

Give each person in your Life Group an index card and ensure everyone has something to write with. Challenge everyone to write down a false promise from the world that they believe will give them peace. Next instruct them to write a prayer to Jesus in which they reject the world's promise and place their trust in His promises. Pray over your Life Group and ask the Lord to draw them to His promises this week.

CONCLUSION

The Lord is for you, not against you. He actively seeks to bless you through His protection, presence, and peace. This week rest in the knowledge that you are experiencing God's blessing and seek to pray this blessing over someone in your life.

NEXT GEN

HOW DOES GOD BLESS HIS PEOPLE?

Numbers 6:22-27

OPENING

Discussion Questions

1. When you hear someone say, "I'm blessed," what comes to mind?
2. How would you define being "blessed"?
3. How does society's definition of "blessed" affect our understanding of what it means to be blessed by God?

APPLICATION

Give each student a piece of paper and a pen. Instruct everyone to turn their paper sideways, write "God's Blessing" in the middle of the page, and draw a box around the words. Direct everyone to draw a line from the top middle of the box to the top of the page and then to draw a line from each bottom corner of the box to the corresponding corner of the page. Tell everyone to write "Protection" in one section, "Presence" in another section, and "Peace" in the last section. Instruct everyone to write down how they have experienced God's blessing in each of these areas.

Afterward, ask these questions:

1. How have you experienced God's blessing through His protection? Through His presence? Through His peace?
2. Where have you taken these blessings for granted?
3. Which blessing has made the biggest impact on your life?

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Additional Resources

"What Is the Meaning of the Hebrew Word *Shalom*?"
gotquestions.org/Shalom-meaning.html

"What Does It Mean To Have Peace With God?"
gotquestions.org/peace-with-God.html

**All thoughts and ideas listed under Additional Resources may not be completely in agreement with Bellevue's theology, and their listing should not be considered as an endorsement.*

March 9
Adults and Next Gen
Lesson 10

2025
CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE

**HOW DOES GOD
RESPOND TO
COMPLAINTS?
Numbers 11–14**

HOW DOES GOD RESPOND TO COMPLAINTS? Numbers 11–14

MAIN IDEA

Complainers anger God, prompt discipline from God, and receive forgiveness from God.

OUTLINE

Weekly Reading Recap

Era Overview

Introduction

1. Who Complained, and What Did They Complain About?

- The Israelites complained about God's provision (Numbers 11, pp. 201–203).
- Miriam and Aaron complained about God's promotion (Numbers 12, p. 203).
- The Israelites complained about God's plan (Numbers 13–14, pp. 203–206).

2. How Did God Respond to the People's Complaints?

- Complainers anger God.
- Complainers prompt discipline from God.
- Complainers receive forgiveness from God.

3. How To Protect Yourself From Complaining

- Guard your heart.
- Guard your mouth.
- Give thanks.

Redemption Thread

Call to Action (Pray that our church will be protected from a spirit of complaining.)

Conclusion

Special Note

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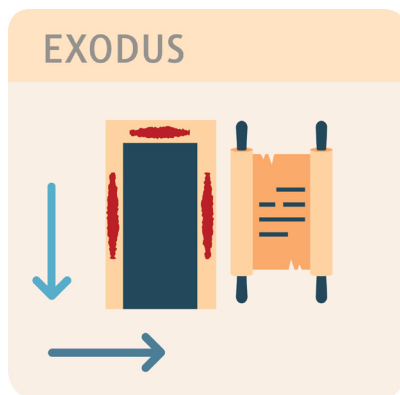


WEEKLY READING RECAP

Our reading this week followed the Israelites as they approached Canaan, God's promised land. The Israelites complained several times, and the Lord gave them consequences. Because the people were fearful to enter Canaan based upon the spies' report, God directed them to turn around and reenter the wilderness. Korah and others rebelled against Moses and Aaron, and God responded to their rebellion by having the ground swallow them up. When the people complained again about water, Moses disobeyed God's instructions, and God told Moses he would not be allowed to enter Canaan. God also gave instructions concerning several offerings and festivals.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. How do you identify with the Israelites' struggle in the wilderness and their inability to enter Canaan?



ERA OVERVIEW

Leader, our lesson today takes place during the Exodus Era. Utilizing page A15 in your Chronological Bible, briefly review the Exodus Era.

INTRODUCTION

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. What do you most often complain about? (*Leader, be prepared to share your own answer.*)

COMPLAINING CAN NEGATIVELY IMPACT YOUR HEALTH, DECREASE MORALE, AND EVEN SHRINK PARTS OF YOUR BRAIN USED FOR CREATIVE THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING.

The average person complains 15 to 30 times daily, often without thinking about it.¹ Traffic slows you down on the way to work? Complain. Your spouse doesn't

make what you wanted for dinner? Complain. Your neighbor's new 70-inch TV is bigger than your 65-inch TV? Complain. Complaining is so entrenched in many of us that it spills out of our mouths before we even have a chance to think about our situation.

Complaining can negatively impact your health, decrease morale, and even shrink parts of your brain used for creative thinking and problem-solving.¹ But does complaining affect our relationship with God? In our lesson today we'll learn how God responds to our complaints.

WHO COMPLAINED, AND WHAT DID THEY COMPLAIN ABOUT?

In Numbers 11-14 we find God's people in the wilderness heading toward Canaan, the land God promised to give them. Even though God had proven that He is good and His promises are true, three complaints arose from the Israelite camp. Let's examine each one.

The Israelites complained about God's provision. (Numbers 11, pp. 201-203)
Read Numbers 11:1a, 4-6.

Traipsing through the wilderness was not easy, as there was often not enough food or water for the people. It was hard, no doubt about it. That's why God provided for His people all along the way. He knew they didn't have the resources they needed to survive, so He gave them what they needed in the form of manna. What is manna?

Ask someone to read Numbers 11:7-9.

When God first provided manna for His people to eat, they had no clue what it was. So that's what they named it—manna means "What is it?" Well, it was God's miraculous provision!

At first God's provision was exciting and amazing. But over time the Israelites allowed the miraculous to become mundane. A spirit of discontent clouded their vision, and they became deceived, believing their oppressors' food was superior to what their loving Liberator provided for them now.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does God's miraculous provision reveal about God?
2. Why is it easy to become filled with discontent concerning God's provision?

Miriam and Aaron complained about God's promotion. (Numbers 12, p. 203)
Read Numbers 12:1-2.

Complaints came not only from the people but also from their leaders. Leading the Israelites across the wilderness was basically a family-run business. Moses was the overall leader. His brother, Aaron, was the high priest, and Miriam, their sister, was a prophetess with

significant influence over the women (Exodus 15:20, p. 120). Even though Miriam and Aaron were given important positions of leadership and influence, it wasn't enough. They became jealous and complained that God promoted Moses to the top. Their words revealed they no longer wanted to play second fiddle to Moses. Their relationship with God was no longer about knowing Him; they now desired to use God as a stepping stone for their own greatness.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. Why are we often quick to be jealous when God promotes someone else?

The Israelites complained about God's plan. (Numbers 13–14, pp. 203–206)

Moses sent men to scout the land as the Israelites approached Canaan, the land God promised to give Abraham during the Patriarch Era. When the spies returned, their report was filled with wonder. They stated in Numbers 13:27 (p. 204), "We entered the land you sent us to explore, and it is indeed a bountiful country—a land flowing with milk and honey." However, the men also reported challenges in Numbers 13:28 (p. 204): "But the people living there are powerful, and their towns are large and fortified. We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak!"

THE PEOPLE'S COMPLAINTS REVEALED THEIR UNBELIEF IN GOD'S GOODNESS.

Instead of remembering that God's promises are true, 10 of the 12 spies declared that it was impossible to conquer the people who lived in Canaan, and this fearful declaration had a profound impact on all of God's people.

Ask someone to read Numbers 14:1–3 (p. 204).

The people's complaints revealed their unbelief in God's goodness. Even after God defeated the Egyptians, parted the water of the Red Sea, and provided food and water in the wilderness, this last obstacle seemed to be one step too far.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. Why does fear weaken our trust and faith in God?

HOW DID GOD RESPOND TO THE PEOPLE'S COMPLAINTS?

Complainers anger God.

In each of these situations God had one response.

Numbers 11:1 (p. 201)—"Then the LORD's anger blazed against them."

Numbers 11:10 (p. 202)—"And the LORD became extremely angry."

Numbers 12:9 (p. 203)—"The LORD was very angry with them."

Numbers 14:11 (p. 205)—"And the LORD said to Moses, 'How long will these people treat me with contempt?'"

WHETHER A COMPLAINT IS BIRTHED FROM DISCONTENT, JEALOUSY, OR FEAR, IT REVEALS A HEART THAT HAS REJECTED THE LORD.

Complaining prompted anger from God. It was not a low, simmering frustration but a red-hot flash of anger. But why do complainers prompt this response from the Lord?

Read Numbers 11:20 (p. 202)—"For you have rejected the LORD, who is here among you, and you have whined to him, saying, 'Why did we ever leave Egypt?'"

Whether a complaint is birthed from discontent, jealousy, or fear, it reveals a heart that has rejected the Lord. In each of these situations the complainers revealed they did not believe in God's goodness; they believed He was holding something good from them. This echoes Eve's fateful choice in Genesis 3 (Creation Era) when she believed God was keeping something good from her, so she grasped the fruit and ate it. Complaining reveals a heart that has rejected God's goodness, character, and plans.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. If complaining means rejecting God, why do many Christians allow themselves to complain?

Complainers prompt discipline from God.

In each of these situations God disciplined His people.

Leader, ask volunteers to read each of the following verses:

Numbers 11:1b (p. 201)—God sent fire and destroyed some of the people.

Numbers 11:31–34 (pp. 202–203)—God gave the people exactly what they complained about not having: meat. They chased the quail, and as they gorged themselves, God struck them with a plague.

Numbers 12:10 (p. 203)—God struck Miriam with leprosy because of her complaint against Moses.

Numbers 14:25 (p. 205)—God determined that every adult would never enter Canaan. He ordered them to turn around and reenter the wilderness.

In each of these situations God confronted the complainers and disciplined them.

The Apostle Paul calls us to remember the lessons the Israelites learned in the wilderness. Read 1 Corinthians 10:9–11 (p. 1,160, Missions Era).

Complainers receive forgiveness from God.

In response to God's discipline Moses pleaded on behalf of the people.

Read Numbers 14:17–20 (p. 205).

Moses' interaction with God reveals two key truths about God:

1. *God is filled with unfailing love.* No matter what people do, God still loves them. This love is the foundation for the second truth.

THE ISRAELITES REJECTED GOD EVERY TIME THEY SINNED, YET GOD'S LOVE AND PATIENCE WERE NEVER-ENDING AND ALL-ENCOMPASSING.

2. *God is filled with patience.* In this circumstance the people's sin was complaining. They had already committed other sins, such as idolatry and disobedience, but God forgave them each time.

The Israelites rejected God every time they sinned, yet God's love and patience were never-ending and all-encompassing.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. How does God's response to the Israelites reveal His character of being just and merciful?

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM COMPLAINING

Since we've learned that complaining is an offense to God, how can you protect yourself from becoming a complainer?

Guard your heart.

Read Proverbs 4:23 CSB (p. 500, Kingdom Era)—“Guard your heart above all else, for it is the source of life.”

If you don't want to be filled with a complaining spirit, you must guard what goes into your heart. If you have a friend who incessantly complains, they are negatively affecting your heart. If you consume media that specializes in rage-baiting (which is a tactic to increase internet traffic by eliciting outrage from viewers), that is negatively affecting your heart. The condition of your heart affects everything in your life.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. What practical step can you take to protect your heart from complaining?

Guard your mouth.

Read Philippians 2:14 (p. 1,220, Missions Era)—“Do everything without complaining and arguing.”

Out of the mouth comes what is in the heart. If you are used to complaining, you must intentionally close the spigot of filth you have allowed to spew for so long. After choosing to guard your heart, you must put up guardrails to keep complaining from crossing your lips.

Here are some suggestions for how to place a guard on your mouth:

- Give yourself a period (one hour, one day, one week) to speak only kind and uplifting words. Slowly lengthen the time as you improve.
- Give someone in your life permission to call you out when you complain.
- Place a rubber band on your left wrist. When you catch yourself complaining, switch the band to your right wrist. Then switch it back the next time you complain. This action will make you more aware of your complaints, causing you to pause before speaking.

GRATITUDE IS THE BEST OFFENSE AGAINST A COMPLAINING SPIRIT.

Give thanks.

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (p. 1,147, Missions Era)—“Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”

No matter your situation, there is something to thank God for. You don't have to thank God for the difficult situation, but He is always doing or providing something good. Look for what that is and thank Him for it. Gratitude is the best offense against a complaining spirit.

REDEMPTION THREAD

From the moment people sinned in the garden of Eden, we have deserved death. However, God has consistently shown humanity patience and mercy by offering a way to be forgiven. First He provided an animal to cover Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden during the Creation Era. During much of the Old Testament God instituted the sacrificial system, in which innocent animals temporarily bore the punishment for people's sins. In the Gospel Era God sent Jesus to permanently pay the price for our sin. Why did God continually show patience throughout the centuries? Because of His unfailing love.

CALL TO ACTION

Our church is currently undergoing a significant period of transition, and we are seeking God's direction regarding finding a new Pastor. During times of transition it is common for complaints to arise that are based on discontent, jealousy, or fear. These types of complaints can threaten the unity of our church and

hinder us from accomplishing our vision “to be a catalyst for spiritual awakening in Memphis and beyond.” This is a vital time for all of us to guard our hearts, guard our mouths, and give thanks.

Leader, lead your group in a time of prayer, asking the Lord to protect our church from a spirit of complaining.

CONCLUSION

When you are tempted to complain this week, remember that complaining is a sign you are rejecting God and His ways. He is present with you in every circumstance and trustworthy in your walk with Him. We have no reason to be discontent, jealous, or afraid because He has already planned for everything we will face this week.

NEXT GEN

HOW DOES GOD RESPOND TO COMPLAINTS? Numbers 11–14

OPENING

Option 1: Gratefulness vs. Complaining

Supplies: None

Instruct the students to sit in a circle. Direct the first student to say a complaint (e.g., My shoes hurt). Instruct the next student to turn the complaint into a statement of gratitude (e.g., Our noses are glad you have shoes!). Repeat this pattern around the circle. If someone takes longer than five seconds to say a complaint or statement of gratitude, then they are out. The last two people left are the winners! Allow time to do several rounds if possible.

Option 2: Discussion Questions

1. What do students complain about most?
2. What do YOU complain about most?
3. Why do some people complain often and others don't?

APPLICATION

Before class get a small box and cut some paper into slips. In class give each student a slip of paper and a pen. Instruct the students to write down one thing they want to stop complaining about this week. Allow each student to share what they wrote down and place the paper into the box. Tell your students that next week you will pull the slips of paper out of the box and ask how they did in not complaining about the topic they wrote down.

Citations

1. “Less Complaining, More.” *iowafarmbureau.com*, 11 Dec. 2023, iowafarmbureau.com/Article/Less-complaining-more-succeeding.

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Additional Resources

“What Does the Bible Say About Complaining?”
gotquestions.org/Bible-complaining.html

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March 16
Adults and Next Gen
Lesson 11

2025
CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE

**HOW DO I PASS ON MY
FAITH TO THE NEXT
GENERATION?
Deuteronomy 6:4–9**

HOW DO I PASS ON MY FAITH TO THE NEXT GENERATION? Deuteronomy 6:4–9

MAIN IDEA

I can effectively pass on my faith by prompting spiritual conversations and providing authentic actions.

OUTLINE

Weekly Reading Recap

Era Overview

Introduction

- 1. The Pursuit of Our Faith (Deuteronomy 6:4, p. 242)**
 - God was their Loving Lord.
 - God was their Personal Provider.
 - God was their Dominant Defender.
- 2. The Priority of Our Faith (Deuteronomy 6:5–6, p. 242)**
 - Love God with all your heart, soul, and strength.
- 3. The Plan of Our Faith (Deuteronomy 6:7–9, p. 242)**
 - Moses' Plan
 - Provide spiritual conversations.
 - Provide authentic actions.
 - How To Be Intentional With Your Spiritual Conversations
 - Share what you learned from reading the Bible.
 - Use God's Word to correct and praise.
 - Create an environment of curiosity.

Redemption Thread

Call to Action (Choose one step to prompt an intentional spiritual conversation this week.)

Conclusion

Special Note

This Life Group series draws from the work of Iva May and her team at Chronological Bible Teaching Ministries Inc. Foundational concepts such as dividing the Bible into 14 Eras, the Redemption Thread, and understanding how God speaks, acts, and reveals Himself in each era come directly from her work. We are thankful for her willingness to allow us to utilize her

14 Era framework and concepts to create these lessons. Our aim with this series is to encourage participants to read the Bible chronologically, but it is not intended to replace or replicate the comprehensive work of Iva and her team. For more resources on reading the Bible chronologically, we highly recommend visiting chronologicalbibleteaching.com.

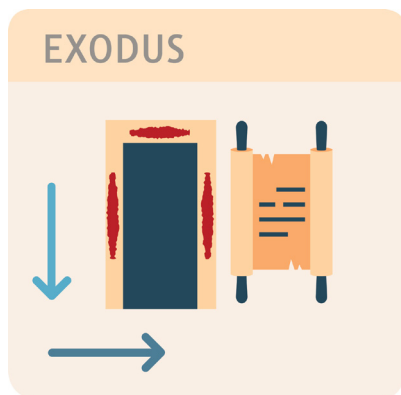


WEEKLY READING RECAP

In our reading this week we finished the book of Numbers. God commanded the Israelites to attack the Midianites and then gave directions for how to divide the spoils of war. The tribes of Reuben and Gad expressed interest in settling on the east side of the Jordan River but agreed to help their countrymen conquer Canaan. The boundaries of God's gift were set, towns were set apart for the Levites, and cities of refuge were established. In Deuteronomy Moses spoke to the people and reviewed their journey from Egypt, including their rebellion, wanderings, and victories. Moses called the people to obey God's directions and reiterated the importance of the Ten Commandments.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. What spiritual connection have you made between the Creation, Patriarch, and Exodus Eras that you've never seen before?



ERA OVERVIEW

Leader, our lesson today takes place during the Exodus Era. Utilizing page A15 in your Chronological Bible, briefly review the Exodus Era.

INTRODUCTION

A seismic shift has occurred in our society over the last several decades. With each new generation, the number of people who claim to follow Christ drops. Take a look at these percentages from 2022¹:

- Silent Generation—72%
- Baby Boomers—61%
- Generation X—50%
- Millennials—42%
- Generation Z—35%

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. How have you seen this shift in your daily life?

These sobering numbers clearly reveal that we are failing to pass on our faith to the next generation. Do we have to accept this downward slide, or can we do anything to fix it?

In our lesson today we will examine the *Shema*, which means “hear” or “listen.” While Moses was in the middle of giving the Israelites God’s directions so they would flourish in the promised land (Deuteronomy 6:2, p. 242), he called the people to *shema* so they would know how to pass on their faith in God to the next generation.

The Israelites had failed dramatically 40 years ago on the border of Canaan when they had the opportunity to show their faith in the Lord. Now it was the next generation’s turn to change the trajectory of their children’s future. In just a few sentences Moses shared how they could influence an entire nation to follow the Lord.

THE PURSUIT OF OUR FAITH (Deuteronomy 6:4, p. 242)

Ask someone to read Deuteronomy 6:4 (p. 242).

Because of translation challenges, this verse can be translated in several different manners. Not only could it be what is written in our NLT Chronological Bibles, but also it could be one of these other options:

- “The LORD our God is one LORD.”
- “The LORD our God, the LORD is one.”
- “The LORD is our God, the LORD is one.”

While the feeling of each version is generally the same, the emphases are slightly different. When we consider the context of Deuteronomy and the polytheistic threat from the neighboring cultures of Canaan, it becomes clear that Moses was urging the people to pledge their loyalty to God and reject Canaan’s false gods. The Israelites were to pursue God and God alone.

EVERYTHING GOD DID ON BEHALF OF THE ISRAELITES WAS MOTIVATED BY LOVE.

God knew the Canaanite gods would tempt them because they appealed to the Israelites’ sensual and selfish character. But who is the God the Israelites were supposed to pursue? In this very speech Moses reveals God’s character.

God was their Loving Lord.

Read Deuteronomy 10:15 (p. 246)—“Yet the LORD chose your ancestors as the objects of his love. And he chose you, their descendants, above all other nations, as is evident today.”

Everything God did on behalf of the Israelites was motivated by love. God never had an ulterior motive in what He accomplished on their behalf.

The very foundation of His relationship with them was love. To show His character of love, the Lord revealed His personal name to the Israelites. When you see “LORD,” that is the translation for “YHWH” or “Yahweh.” God wouldn’t reveal His personal name to people He didn’t love.

THE PEOPLE NEVER HAD A NEED THAT GOD COULDN'T MEET OR THAT SNUCK PAST HIS ATTENTION.

God was their Personal Provider.

Read Deuteronomy 8:4 (p. 244)—“For all these forty years your clothes didn’t wear out, and your feet didn’t blister or swell.”

During the Israelites’ 40 years in the desert, God knew their every need. When they needed water, He provided water. When they were short on food, He provided manna. When they were unable to replace their clothes, He extended the life of their clothing. When their feet were pushed past their limit, He physically strengthened them. The people never had a need that God couldn’t meet or that snuck past His attention.

God was their Dominant Defender.

Read Deuteronomy 1:30 (p. 234)—“The LORD your God is going ahead of you. He will fight for you, just as you saw him do in Egypt.”

The Israelites had met various enemies throughout their history up to this point, and God defended them every time. The Egyptians crumbled beneath God’s power. The Israelites defeated the Amalekites in battle because of God’s miraculous power. God protected His people from being cursed by the Moabites and instead ensured they were blessed. No enemy could withstand God’s might. He dominated every single one of them.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What Scripture passages do you know that say God is our Loving LORD, Personal Provider, and Dominant Defender? (*Leader, write everyone’s answers on the whiteboard.*)
2. When have you seen God be one of these things in your life?

THE PRIORITY OF OUR FAITH

(Deuteronomy 6:5–6, p. 242)

In one sentence Moses put the perfect character of God on display to remind the people whom they were following. If that’s who God is, then how were the Israelites supposed to prioritize their relationship with Him?

Ask someone to read Deuteronomy 6:5–6 (p. 242).

The Hebrew word for love (*ahava*) in verse 5 is a broad term, and it points to the care or affection one person

shows another. When God showed love to His people, it wasn’t just a feeling, but it involved an action (Deuteronomy 7:7–8, p. 243). So when God calls His people to love Him, He wants them to respond with a similar love—a love not just of feelings but of action.

Love God with all your heart, soul, and strength.

Moses called the people to love the Lord with their entire beings: their thoughts, emotions, and bodies. Everything they thought, felt, and experienced was to be God’s and His alone. They were to pursue Him with such reckless abandon that they held nothing of their existence from Him.

Jesus reiterated this priority when asked about the most important commandment (Matthew 22:37, p. 1,074, Gospel Era). Unfortunately, fulfilling this command is impossible for us. Since Adam and Eve chose to sin in the Creation Era, people have sought to hide and keep parts of their lives from God. We cannot love God with all our heart, soul, and strength no matter how hard we try.

WHEN YOU ALLOW YOURSELF TO RECEIVE JESUS’ LOVE EACH DAY, YOU WILL EXPERIENCE THE FULLNESS OF GOD’S POWER IN YOU.

If you’re constantly frustrated because your love for God never seems complete, are you willing to try something different?

Ask someone to read Ephesians 3:18–20 (p. 1,211, Missions Era).

Instead of striving to love God through your own power, soak up the full expression of His love for you through Jesus. If you were able to love God in a way that satisfied His command, then Jesus would have never needed to come. But because you can’t, Jesus came and accomplished perfection for you. When you allow yourself to receive Jesus’ love each day, you will experience the fullness of God’s power in you that will empower you to respond to His love with all your heart, soul, and strength.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. How can the idea of accepting God’s immeasurable love for you daily change your relationship with Him?

THE PLAN OF OUR FAITH (Deuteronomy 6:7–9, p. 242)

Leader, the steps Moses gave in this section specifically apply to parents passing along their faith to their children. If you lead a Life Group of people who are not parents or grandparents, these steps still apply to passing faith on to people other than children. Adjust the content to fit your Life Group.

Once Moses had clearly stated whom the Israelites needed to pursue and how to prioritize their pursuit of the Lord, he ensured they knew the plan to pass on their faith to the next generation.

Ask someone to read Deuteronomy 6:7–9 (p. 242).

Moses' plan was a simple one:

Prompt Spiritual Conversations

Moses called the people to discuss spiritual topics with their children throughout everyday activities. (While this was specifically for parents to pass on their faith to their children, we all have the responsibility to share our faith with those in our sphere of influence.) Moses called adults to look for ways to discuss God's commands with their kids whether they were at home or taking a trip. From the moment the sun rose until it set, parents were to take opportunities to show children that God's Word applied to their daily lives. Plus, they had to have the same conversation over and over to ensure the truth would stick. (Most people need to hear the Gospel seven times before making a decision to trust Christ.)

**AUTHENTICITY WILL OPEN THE DOOR
TO THE HARDEST OF HEARTS.**

Provide Authentic Actions

Using symbolic language, Moses instructed the people to consider God's commands in everything they saw with their eyes and did with their hands. They were to apply God's commands whenever they left or returned home. Every thought and action, no matter what they were doing or where they were, was to glorify God. Nothing was off-limits, and they were to obey God at all times.

In our modern context, the two steps above still apply. First, seek to be authentic concerning your relationship with God. Kids, especially preteens and teenagers, have instant "fake detectors." If they think you don't believe what you're telling them to believe, they will tune you out in a heartbeat. Be real about your walk with the Lord. Be honest about where you struggle to trust God. If you struggle with greed, anger, or jealousy, tell your kids you have difficulty obeying God in those areas, but you're thankful for God's forgiveness. Authenticity will open the door to the hardest of hearts.

Second, be intentional with your conversations and seek to include spiritual topics. Here are three ways you can do that:

Share what you learned from reading the Bible.

Sit in a spot in your home where your children can see you reading your Bible each day. When God teaches you something through His Word, share it with your

child. This isn't a lecture or 10-minute conversation. You're just showing your child that the Bible is important and that God teaches you from His Word.

Use God's Word to correct and praise.

When your child does the wrong thing, go beyond correcting their behavior—use the Bible to show them why their behavior was wrong. On the flip side, use God's Word when your child chooses correct behavior too! If your child only hears you reference the Bible when they do wrong, they will grow up having an incredibly negative view of God's Word.

**IT TAKES ALL OF US TO ENSURE THAT KIDS
HEAR THE TRUTH ENOUGH TO SINK IN!**

Create an environment of curiosity.

One of the best ways to ensure children continue to pursue the Lord as they grow older is to foster an atmosphere of questions. Sure, constant questions can be annoying, but if children and teenagers don't feel like they can ask spiritual questions, they will do one of two things: 1) They will ask their friends, who may not point them in the right direction, or 2) they will stop asking questions and assume the Bible isn't true or can't handle their questions. If they ask you a question you don't know the answer to, that's OK! Be honest about it and offer to seek out the answer together.

These steps do not only apply to parents. You can apply them whether you're a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or volunteer in Next Gen or Children's Ministry. While the responsibility of passing on our faith to the next generation primarily belongs to parents, it takes all of us to ensure that kids hear the truth enough to sink in! As part of Bellevue's pathway, we encourage people to "Replicate in others" by making disciples, whether you're investing in a child or your neighbor across the street. Are you ready to begin?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it vital for children to see their parents (or adult leaders) actively reading God's Word regularly? What hinders parents from being authentic in this area?
2. What challenges do parents (or adult leaders) face when attempting to share their faith with their children or teenagers? What are some practical ways to work around those challenges?
3. What hinders you from being authentic with the people around you? What are some challenges you face in sharing your faith?

REDEMPTION THREAD

From the very beginning there has only been one God, and He is the one who created everything, including people. Almost immediately, people were

tempted to love something other than Him. Whether it's idols in the Conquest Era through the Divided Kingdom Era, religious importance in the Gospel Era, or pride in the Missions Era, people have always been tempted to divide their love. This call to divide our love is not a new one, but it is effective. The only one to deflect this temptation is Jesus, who rebuffed Satan when he offered all the kingdoms of the world. Jesus revealed His complete love for God the Father by accepting His plan and dying on the cross. Only through that full expression of God's love can we choose to love God fully.

CALL TO ACTION

Encourage your Life Group members to choose one way to prompt a spiritual discussion with someone of the next generation this week. Direct your Life Group members to form small groups and share which step they will take and with whom they will take it. Instruct the groups to pray for each other. (Remind everyone that they don't have to be parents to apply these steps.)

CONCLUSION

Gen Z and Generation Alpha are the current generations that fill our Children's and Next Gen Ministries. According to statistics, many of these children will walk away from their faith when they leave home—that's if we keep doing what has been done the last 40 years. Are you willing to be different? Remember, you have nothing to pass along until you know the one you're pursuing and place Him as your top priority. Once you do that, prompt spiritual discussions and provide authentic actions so your child will grow to learn that the "LORD is our God, the LORD alone" (Deuteronomy 6:4, p. 242).

NEXT GEN

HOW DO I PASS ON MY FAITH TO THE NEXT GENERATION?

Deuteronomy 6:4–9

OPENING

Discussion Questions

1. If you had to describe who God is to you in three words or less, what would you say?
2. What percentage of your friends claim to follow Christ? Where do you go to school? (*Leader, write the students' answers on the board so you can see trends in your class.*)
3. Do your daily actions show that God is a priority in your life or that He's not a priority? How so?

APPLICATION

Write "Heart," "Soul," and "Strength" on the whiteboard. Ask the students for examples of how they can love God in each of those ways. Write their answers on the board. Challenge students to choose one of the options on the board and love God in a new way this week. Give each student a note card and a pen and instruct them to write their choice on their card. Encourage them to place the card in a prominent spot at home to remind them of their commitment this week.

Citations

1. Burge, Ryan. "Gen Z and Religion in 2022." *Religion in Public*, 3 Apr. 2023, religioninpublic.blog/2023/04/03/gen-z-and-religion-in-2022/.

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Additional Resources

What It Means To "Love" God

bibleproject.com/explore/video/ahavah-love

"What's the Meaning of the Jewish

Shema Prayer in the Bible?"

bibleproject.com/articles/what-is-the-shema

Word Studies: "The Shema Series" (Videos)

bibleproject.com/explore/category/shema-series

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**CONGRATULATIONS—
YOU FINISHED LESSON 11!**



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March 23
Adults and Next Gen
Lesson 12

2025
CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE

**HOW DOES DISOBEDIENCE
AFFECT ME?
Deuteronomy 28**

HOW DOES DISOBEDIENCE AFFECT ME? Deuteronomy 28

MAIN IDEA

God desires to bless people, but people consistently choose to disobey Him.

OUTLINE

Weekly Reading Recap

Era Overview

Introduction

- 1. The Blessings of Obeying God (Deuteronomy 28:1–14, pp. 261–262)**
 - God's Promised Blessings to Israel for Obedience
- 2. The Curses of Disobeying God (Deuteronomy 28:15–68, pp. 262–264)**
 - God's Promised Curses to Israel for Disobedience
- 3. God's Consistent Desire To Bless People**
 - God's desire is revealed throughout the eras.
- 4. Our Consistent Desire To Disobey God**
 - People's desire to disobey is revealed throughout the eras.
- 5. What To Do When You Disobey**
 - Repent
 - Memorize
 - Seek Accountability

Redemption Thread

Call to Action (Join Financial Peace University or a Life Solutions Group or seek Biblical Counseling.)

Conclusion

Special Note

This Life Group series draws from the work of Iva May and her team at Chronological Bible Teaching Ministries Inc. Foundational concepts such as dividing the Bible into 14 Eras, the Redemption Thread, and understanding how God speaks, acts, and reveals Himself in each era come directly from her work. We are thankful for her willingness to allow us to utilize her

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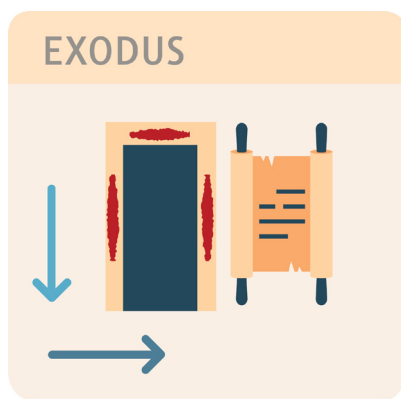


WEEKLY READING RECAP

In our reading this week we finished the book of Deuteronomy. Moses finished giving Israel God's instructions concerning worship, celebrations, justice, and mercy. Moses reminded the people that obeying God would bring His blessings, but disobedience would bring God's curses. Moses appointed Joshua as his successor and then died on Mount Nebo. We began the Conquest Era with Joshua sending spies into Jericho who were protected from capture by Rahab, a prostitute who lived in the city.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. What recurring themes of God's character did you notice while reading Deuteronomy?



ERA OVERVIEW

Leader, our lesson today takes place during the Exodus Era. Utilizing page A15 in your Chronological Bible, briefly review the Exodus Era.

INTRODUCTION

In the timeless classic *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, four children stumble into a fantasy world named Narnia. Three children (Peter, Susan, and Lucy) follow Aslan, while the fourth child, Edmund, allies himself with the evil White Witch, who promises him Turkish delight and the ability to rule over his siblings. Peter, Susan, and Lucy prosper in Aslan's presence and grow in character while with him. Unfortunately, Edmund discovers that the White Witch's promises are hollow, and he becomes her prisoner, trapped because of his selfishness.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. What is your favorite story in which a character must choose between right and wrong? What happens to the character?
2. When have you been faced with a difficult decision between right and wrong? What happened?

Like Edmund, the Israelites had a serious decision to make. In our lesson today we will examine the stark choice Moses presented to the people: Will

they obey God and experience His blessings, or will they disobey God and receive His curses?

Potential activity: Provide green and red pens to your Life Group members. As you discuss the blessings of obeying God, instruct everyone to draw a green box around the blessings. As you discuss the curses of disobeying God, instruct everyone to draw a red box around the curses. Point out how God goes to great lengths to ensure His people know how terrible the curses will be.

THE BLESSINGS OF OBEYING GOD

(Deuteronomy 28:1-14, pp. 261-262)

As Moses wrapped up his last speech to the Israelites, he made it crystal clear that their lives in Canaan would be dramatically different based on their decision to obey God or not. Let's first look at the blessings God promised if they obeyed.

IF THE PEOPLE TRUSTED GOD AND OBEYED HIS DIRECTIONS, GOD PROMISED TO BLESS THEIR TOWNS, CHILDREN, CROPS, AND LIVELIHOODS.

God's Promised Blessings to Israel for Obedience

Ask someone to read Deuteronomy 28:1-6 (pp. 261-262).

If the people trusted God and obeyed His directions, God promised to bless their towns, children, crops, and livelihoods. Moses went on to say that God also guaranteed a blessing on everything they did and that He would fill their storehouses with grain. Israel's prosperity would be so great that they would be a lender to other nations and would never have to borrow from anyone else. As a result, Israel would rise to the top of all nations.

THE CURSES OF DISOBEYING GOD

(Deuteronomy 28:15-68, pp. 262-264)

However, if the people disobeyed God, they would experience significant consequences.

God's Promised Curses to Israel for Disobedience

Ask someone to read Deuteronomy 28:15-19 (p. 262).

Where obedience would bring God's blessing, disobedience would bring God's curse upon the people's towns, children, crops, and livelihoods. And like any parent who fears their child is tempted to do wrong, Moses goes into great detail about what experiencing God's curses would be like. Here are some examples:

- They will be struck with diseases and disasters (Deuteronomy 28:21-24, 27-29, 34-35, pp. 262-263)

- They will be defeated and killed by their enemies (Deuteronomy 28:25–26, p. 262)
- They will lose their relationships and possessions (Deuteronomy 28:30–33, pp. 262–263)
- They will lose their homes and be exiled to foreign lands (Deuteronomy 28:36–37, p. 263)

To sum up the severity of the consequences of their disobedience, Moses stated in verse 66 (pp. 263–264), “Your life will constantly hang in the balance. You will live night and day in fear, unsure if you will survive.”

In the Kingdom Era, Solomon reinforced this truth in Proverbs 4:18–19 (p. 500). Ask someone to read those verses.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think God connected obedience to tangible blessings like prosperity, health, and success?
2. Why did Moses spend so much time outlining the curses the people would receive from disobedience?

GOD’S CONSISTENT DESIRE TO BLESS PEOPLE

It’s important to remember that God made these specific promises to Israel, not us. But is it in God’s character to want to bless people? Let’s look throughout the eras and find out.

God’s desire is revealed throughout the eras.

Ask someone to read Genesis 1:27–28 (p. 8, Creation Era).

GOD’S BLESSING IS NOT DEPENDENT UPON A PERSON’S SOCIAL STATUS, AUTHORITY, OR POWER. HE SEEKS TO BLESS ALL OF HIS PEOPLE WHO OBEY HIM.

One of God’s first actions after creating people was to bless them. In our first lesson we learned that God desired to provide for people’s needs, give them a purpose, and ensure they would not be alone.

Ask someone to read Psalm 115:12–13 (p. 669, Divided Kingdom Era).

God never forgets His people but will bless them. God’s blessing is not dependent upon a person’s social status, authority, or power. He seeks to bless all of His people who obey Him.

Ask someone to read Matthew 7:9–11 (p. 1,008, Gospel Era).

When teaching about asking God for things in prayer, Jesus clearly stated that God desires to give people good gifts.

Ask someone to read James 1:17 (p. 1,223, Missions Era).

Everything good comes from God. Good things come from Him because He is filled with light without a hint of darkness. His desire to bless people has never wavered or changed because He has been the same from the very beginning.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do these passages reveal about God’s heart?
2. How does the consistency of God’s desire to bless people affect your view of Him?
3. What situations or attitudes prompt people to forget God’s desire to bless them?

OUR CONSISTENT DESIRE TO DISOBEY GOD

Unfortunately, when faced with God’s desire to bless, people chose to disobey Him all throughout the eras.

People’s desire to disobey is revealed throughout the eras.

Ask someone to read Ezekiel 2:3–5 (p. 817, Divided Kingdom Era).

REBELLION AGAINST GOD ISN’T LIMITED TO ISRAEL—THERE IS NO ONE LIVING OR DEAD WHO HASN’T REBELLED AGAINST GOD AND HIS WAYS.

When God sent Ezekiel to call the Israelites living in captivity in Babylon, He made it clear that His people had been constantly rebellious against Him. Remember how one of the curses in Deuteronomy 28 was that they would be exiled to a foreign land? Ezekiel and the Israelites were living in the reality of that curse.

Ask someone to read Romans 3:10–12 (p. 1,173, Missions Era).

Rebellion against God isn’t limited to Israel—there is no one living or dead who hasn’t rebelled against God and His ways. We may be tempted to believe this passage only applies to people we perceive as *really* far from God. However, we must remember that even though we sit together in nice clothes and say all the right things, we cover up our wayward hearts (Jeremiah 17:9, p. 795, Divided Kingdom Era). Every single one of us at Bellevue has turned away from God and sought our own way. We cannot simply point this verse outward—we must remember to direct it toward ourselves.

Consider these stats concerning the state of our country:

- 29% of adults have been diagnosed with depression.¹
- 57% of teenage girls experience persistent sadness or hopelessness.²

- Americans hold \$1.6 trillion in student loan debt, \$1.1 trillion in credit card debt, and \$1.6 trillion in auto loan debt.³
- \$10–12 billion is spent on the porn industry in America each year.⁴

Does this sound like a country that is being blessed? If you have struggled with depression or mental illness, that doesn't mean you're being punished for being sinful. But when we zoom out and look at these numbers (all of which are increasing each year), it reveals a picture of a nation—Christians and non-Christians alike—who continually turn away from God's ways. Instead of seeking God daily, we spend the majority of our time on devices and video games. Instead of saving and paying for items with cash, we spend money we don't have. Instead of developing a deep and meaningful relationship with our spouse (or future spouse), we consume pornography for instant gratification.

These troubling numbers include Christians. There's only one reason why Christians would consume porn and purchase items they can't afford at the same rate as non-Christians: They have chosen to rebel against God's ways. Unfortunately, these types of decisions devastate children, spouses, friendships, mental well-being, and so much more.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can recognizing our own rebellion against God bring us closer to Him?
2. How has rebellion against God's ways affected our city?

GOD IS ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO FORGIVE YOU AND COVER YOU WITH HIS PRESENCE. HE IS READY TO RECEIVE YOU AND SHOW YOU THAT HIS WAYS ARE BETTER.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU DISOBEY

In Matthew 7:3 (p. 1,008, Gospel Era) Jesus said, "And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own?"

At Bellevue our vision is "to be a catalyst for spiritual awakening in Memphis and beyond." However, we will never achieve this if we are harboring sin in our lives. "It starts in me," as we like to say. Today is the day to not worry about anyone else's sin but to kick your sin to the curb! Whatever you have been reluctant to release, turn away from it and find the freedom and blessing that God offers with forgiveness. What should you do?

Repent

Read 1 John 1:9 (p. 1,258, Missions Era)—"But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."

God is anxiously waiting to forgive you and cover you with His presence. He is ready to receive you and show you that His ways are better.

Memorize

Read Psalm 119:11 (p. 671, Divided Kingdom Era)—"I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

Find a Scripture passage that applies to your situation and memorize it. This will empower you to stand on God's Word the next time you are tempted and give you the strength to follow God's ways. (Jesus used this strategy when tempted by the devil—it works!)

WHEN WE TURN FROM OUR REBELLION IT PUTS US IN THE RIGHT PLACE TO RECEIVE BLESSINGS FROM GOD.

Seek Accountability

Read Ecclesiastes 4:12 (p. 531, Kingdom Era)—"A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken."

Most people attempt to defeat sin that's entrenched in their lives on their own, only to fail repeatedly. But there is strength in numbers, so find some people who will ask you the hard questions. They can hold you up when you're tempted to rebel against God's ways.

We learned several weeks ago that God has not promised to shower us with physical blessings when we follow His ways. However, He does desire to bless us both physically and spiritually, and when we turn from our rebellion it puts us in the right place to receive those blessings from Him.

Leader, if you sense the Lord moving in your Life Group, give your group time to repent of any sin they are harboring in their heart.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What reasons do people give for not seeking accountability to help them turn away from sin?
2. Have you ever used Scripture to help you defeat sin? What Scripture did you use?

REDEMPTION THREAD

Throughout Scripture, God has cursed disobedience and blessed obedience. However, the difficulty lies in the fact that ultimately God's blessings and curses are not seen until after a person has died. A wicked person may receive every good thing this life has to offer while a righteous person may struggle their entire life. This is difficult to witness or experience, but every temporary blessing or curse points to God's eternal blessing and

curse, which we see in Romans 6:23 (p. 1,176, Missions Era): “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.” Disobedience results in being separated from God forever, while obedience brings eternal life through Jesus. While there can still be consequences from God when Christians sin, they will not experience the curse of the law because Jesus experienced that curse for us (Galatians 3:13, p. 1,136, Missions Era).

While you may not have all the temporary blessings you wish, God promises to give you everything you need when you seek His kingdom first (Matthew 6:25–33, p. 1,008, Gospel Era). Plus you have access to every spiritual blessing God has to offer through Jesus (Ephesians 1:3, p. 1,208, Missions Era), such as His presence, provision, and promises.

CALL TO ACTION

Turning from sin often means you must work hard and be intentional to stay away from it in the future. Encourage your Life Group to take these steps:

Financial Peace University

Bellevue offers Financial Peace University classes throughout the year. Learn how to manage your money God’s way by discovering how to create a budget, get out of debt, and find financial freedom. Classes can be found at bellevue.org/ramsey.

Life Solutions Groups

People are not meant to face troubles alone. Bellevue offers Life Solutions Groups, which are designed to facilitate conversations of healing, forgiveness, and encouragement. Available groups can be found at bellevue.org/life-solutions.

Biblical Counseling

Sometimes people need individual help to confront challenges or find freedom from sin. Bellevue offers Biblical Counseling, where counselors help people find answers using God’s Word. To get started, go to bellevue.org/biblical-counseling.

CONCLUSION

Like Edmund in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, you have a choice to make. Will you obey or disobey God’s directions? Your decision concerning that one question will put you on the path of either curses or blessings. The greatest blessing is to have a relationship with God, and to be close to Him, you must obey His ways. If you are experiencing hardship because of disobedience, turn back to Him today so you can experience the blessing of His presence. Obedience may be difficult, but remember that the blessing of obedience always outweighs the hardship of disobedience. Will you choose obedience this week?

NEXT GEN

HOW DOES DISOBEDIENCE AFFECT ME? Deuteronomy 28

OPENING

Discussion Questions

1. When you rebel against God’s ways, what is typically the result? Does that affect your future behavior or not?
2. How do you respond when you experience consequences for poor decisions?
3. What results do you see in your life when you obey God’s directions?

APPLICATION

Give each student a piece of paper and a pen. Tell them you will give them five minutes to journal their thoughts concerning the lesson today. Write the following questions on the board and instruct the students to respond:

1. Where am I disobeying God, and what consequences am I experiencing?
2. What is keeping me from obeying God’s directions in these areas?
3. What will happen after I choose to obey?

Give your students time to write their responses. Then pray over the students and ask God to bless them as they obey His directions this week.

Citations

1. Witters, Dan. “U.S. Depression Rates Reach New Highs.” *Gallup*, 17 May 2023, news.gallup.com/poll/505745/depression-rates-reach-new-highs.aspx.
2. CDC. “U.S. Teen Girls Experiencing Increased Sadness and Violence.” *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, 13 Feb. 2023, cdc.gov/media/releases/2023/p0213-yrbs.html.
3. Ramsey Solutions. “Average American Debt.” *Ramsey Solutions*, 21 Oct. 2021, ramseysolutions.com/debt/average-american-debt.
4. “Things Are Looking up in America’s Porn Industry.” *NBC News*, NBC News, 20 Jan. 2015, nbcnews.com/business-news/things-are-looking-americas-porn-industry-n289431.

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Additional Resources

“What Are the Blessings God Promised Israel for Obedience?”
gotquestions.org/blessings-obedience.html

“What Are the Curses God Promised Israel for Disobedience?”
gotquestions.org/curses-disobedience.html

*All thoughts and ideas listed under Additional Resources may not be completely in agreement with Bellevue’s theology, and their listing should not be considered as an endorsement.

**CONGRATULATIONS—
YOU FINISHED LESSON 12!**

CB25



Bellevue
Baptist Church



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March 30
Adults and Next Gen
Lesson 13

2025
CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE

**CAN ANYONE BE
SAVED?**
Joshua 2:1–24, 6:1–25

CAN ANYONE BE SAVED?
Joshua 2:1–24, 6:1–25

MAIN IDEA

Even though we live under the certainty of God’s judgment, we will experience His salvation when we make a decision of faith.

OUTLINE

Weekly Reading Recap

Era Overview

Introduction

- 1. Rahab Lived Under the Certainty of Judgment (Joshua 2:1–11a, p. 275)**
- 2. Rahab Made a Costly Decision of Faith (Joshua 2:11b–24, p. 275)**
 - Heavenly Citizenship vs. Earthly Citizenship
 - God’s People vs. Neighbors
 - God’s Orders vs. Government Orders
- 3. Rahab Experienced the Comfort of Salvation (Joshua 6:1–23, pp. 278–279)**
- 4. We Are Surrounded by “Rahabs” in Memphis**
 - Ministry Partner Spotlight: Sista2Sista

Redemption Thread

Call to Action (Serve with one of Bellevue’s ministry partners.)

Conclusion

Important Note: Leader, please download the “Life on Mission” app to your smartphone and familiarize yourself with one of the two Gospel presentations in the app (3 Circles or Best News). You will need this for part four of this lesson.

At the beginning of Life Group, instruct everyone to download the app.

(If you are unable to download the app, the “You Can Know the Answer” Gospel tract is another good resource. Talk with your ministry leader about getting one from Bellevue.)

Special Note

This Life Group series draws from the work of Iva May and her team at Chronological Bible Teaching Ministries Inc. Foundational concepts such as dividing the Bible into 14 Eras, the Redemption Thread, and understanding how God speaks, acts, and reveals Himself in each era come directly from her work. We are thankful for her willingness to allow us to utilize her

14 Era framework and concepts to create these lessons. Our aim with this series is to encourage participants to read the Bible chronologically, but it is not intended to replace or replicate the comprehensive work of Iva and her team. For more resources on reading the Bible chronologically, we highly recommend visiting chronologicalbibleteaching.com.

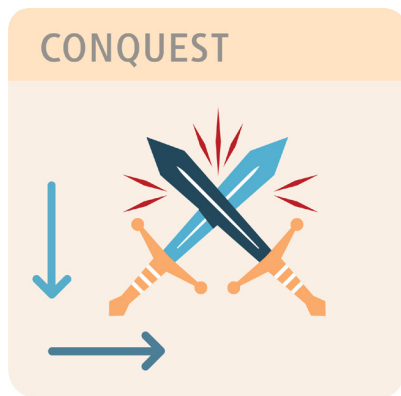


WEEKLY READING RECAP

This week's reading consisted of Israel's conquest of Canaan and the division of the land between the tribes of Israel. After the destruction of Jericho, the Israelites were defeated at the town of Ai because of Achan's sin. Israel regained God's favor after dealing with Achan's sin, and they went on to defeat much of the rest of Canaan. The end of the book of Joshua consists of him calling the people to stay faithful to God. Joshua reminded them of God's faithful deeds and told them of the consequences of disobedience. The people proclaimed they would serve the Lord.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How did the Israelites obey God's directions during their conquest of Canaan? How did they disobey? What were the results of both of those decisions?



ERA OVERVIEW

Leader, our lesson today takes place during the Conquest Era. Utilizing page A15 in your Chronological Bible, briefly review the Conquest Era.

INTRODUCTION

Last week in our reading we said goodbye to Moses and the Exodus Era, and we entered the Conquest Era when Joshua became the leader of God's people. The Israelites crossed over the Jordan River and finally became ready to leave the wilderness behind and step into God's promised land.

In our lesson today we will look at the Israelites' conquest of Jericho from a slightly different perspective than usual. We'll examine the journey of Rahab, a woman whose culture and personal decisions ensured she was far from God. But with one decision, her life and legacy were instantly changed.

RAHAB LIVED UNDER THE CERTAINTY OF JUDGMENT (Joshua 2:1-11a, p. 275)

Rahab lived in the city of Jericho, which was a fortress on the edge of Canaan. Because she was a prostitute, her life did not honor God's design for relationships and marriage, which was established in the garden of Eden

during the Creation Era. Genesis 2:24 (p. 9) reveals that God intended for one man and one woman to come together exclusively for their entire lives in marriage. Rahab's decisions put her in rebellion against God and His ways, so she deserved God's judgment.

GOD GAVE THE CANAANITES GRACE BY GIVING THEM TIME TO TURN FROM THEIR SINFUL PRACTICES, BUT THEY NEVER DID.

Not only did Rahab personally deserve God's judgment, but also she lived in a region that was about to experience the judgment of God because of their sin.

During the Patriarch Era God declared to Abraham in Genesis 15:16 (p. 24), "After four generations your descendants will return here to this land, for the sins of the Amorites do not yet warrant their destruction." The Amorites and many other cultures lived in Canaan, and their cultures were filled with destructive practices such as idolatry and child sacrifice. God gave those people grace by giving them time to turn from their sinful practices, but they never did. So it was time for His promised judgment.

Joshua sent two spies into Jericho to determine the city's defenses. When Rahab met God's people, she hid them from the king of Jericho and revealed that the people of the region knew they were about to experience God's judgment.

Ask someone to read Joshua 2:8-11a (p. 275).

The people of Jericho had heard of God's power and actions. The stories of His defeat of Egypt and the Israelites' miraculous escape had reached their walls, and they had never seen such power. Much closer to home, the Israelites had already defeated the Amorite kings on the east side of the Jordan River, and the hearts of the Canaanites melted in fear as the Israelites closed in on their city.

God's grace toward the Canaanites as a whole and toward Rahab as an individual was coming to an end, and they all seemed to realize there was nothing they could do to stop God's judgment.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you encounter someone who is living under God's judgment, do you secretly hope they get what they deserve or desire for them to find God's grace? How come?
2. If you are a Christian, how does the fact that you used to be under God's judgment affect your view of other people choosing sin?

RAHAB SAW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WORSHIPING AN IDOL MADE OF STONE OR WOOD AND WORSHIPING THE LORD OF THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH.

RAHAB MADE A COSTLY DECISION

OF FAITH (Joshua 2:11b–24, p. 275)

Canaan was filled with people who were afraid of God’s impending judgment. They heard the stories. They knew of God’s power. But they stopped there. Rahab took it one step further and made a bold declaration.

Read Joshua 2:11b (p. 275)—“For the LORD your God is the supreme God of the heavens above and the earth below.”

Canaan was filled with idol worship, and Rahab saw the difference between worshiping an idol made of stone or wood and worshiping the Lord of the heavens and the Earth. Earthly idols are made by man. The heavenly God created people. Earthly idols cannot accomplish anything. The heavenly God rules over the world powers. As the stories of God’s greatness poured into Jericho, Rahab quickly realized only one God was worthy of worship. So she decided to place her faith in Him.

But this decision made her a traitor to her own people and could have cost her everything. Rahab’s declaration changed everything about her life.

Heavenly Citizenship vs. Earthly Citizenship

From that moment forward Rahab did not identify with the people of Jericho but with the people of God. Her citizenship was now with “the supreme God of the heavens above,” and that turned her into a traitor against her people. She couldn’t be a citizen of both places; she had to pick one. She chose heaven.

God’s People vs. Neighbors

Rahab chose to align herself with the people of God instead of her neighbors. Though God’s people spoke a different language and followed different customs, Rahab now had more in common with the Israelites than with the people she saw daily.

RAHAB’S HEART WAS OPEN TO THE TRUTH OF WHO GOD IS, AND SHE DECIDED TO FOLLOW HIM—EVEN IF THE COST WAS HER LIFE.

God’s Orders vs. Government Orders

The two spies told Rahab what to do when it was time for the attack. She was to bring her family

into her home and hang a scarlet rope outside her window (Joshua 2:18–19, p. 275). If she followed those instructions, she and her entire family would survive.

Earlier in the chapter Rahab disobeyed the king’s orders and directed the king’s men to look for the spies outside the city. She now took orders from a new king, which endangered her safety.

Rahab realized her decision placed her and her family in danger, but her heart was open to the truth of who God is, and she decided to follow Him—even if the cost was her life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do many people attempt to follow God *and* the world?
2. What risks do people face when they choose to turn their back on the world and instead follow God? Are you prepared to face those risks?

EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE SIGNIFICANT BARRIERS BETWEEN RAHAB AND GOD, HE BROKE THROUGH THOSE BARRIERS TO REACH HER.

RAHAB EXPERIENCED THE COMFORT

OF SALVATION (Joshua 6:1–23, pp. 278–279)

The day of God’s judgment arrived, and we can imagine Rahab’s confusion as she watched the Israelites march around the city for seven days. She may have even wondered if she made the right decision to put her faith in God. Little did she know that she was watching firsthand what it looks like to follow God completely.

Ask someone to read Joshua 6:2–5 (p. 278).

Strange instructions, indeed, as God directed the people to march around the city once per day for six days. On the seventh day the Israelites marched around the city seven times and then shouted. As Rahab and the entire city of Jericho watched the Israelites shout, the walls of Jericho, the impregnable city, collapsed in ruins. Once again God proved His strength. And what of Rahab and her family?

Ask someone to read Joshua 6:22–23 (p. 279).

Rahab and her family were rescued from God’s judgment and taken to a safe place outside the Israelite camp. Even though there were significant barriers between Rahab and God, He broke through those barriers to reach her. But her story doesn’t end there.

Ask someone to read Matthew 1:5–6 (p. 981, Gospel Era).

Rahab married a man named Salmon, a descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 2:10–11, p. 332, Judges Era). Salmon and Rahab’s descendants included King David, King Asa, and many years later, King Jesus. Not only did Rahab find salvation in following God, but He also changed her life and legacy. She is one of only five women listed in Jesus’ lineage, and her inclusion reveals that God came to save all people regardless of race, gender, or history.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some lessons Rahab may have learned about following God while watching the Israelites “attack” Jericho?
2. What does Rahab’s journey teach us about God’s ability to save and transform anyone?

WE ARE SURROUNDED BY “RAHABS” IN MEMPHIS

Why would we take one of the most famous accounts in the Bible and examine it from the lens of a woman who lived inside the city? Because we are surrounded by “Rahabs” throughout Memphis. Our city is filled with people who are far from God and who are living under the certainty of God’s judgment. Some people do not know anything about Jesus because no one taught them as a child. There are people whose culture leads them to worship idols that seem strange and foreign to us. Others have consistently made poor decisions, and it has wrecked their lives.

OUR CITY IS FILLED WITH HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT RIGHT WITH GOD BUT DON'T KNOW HOW TO REACH HIM. WILL YOU BE SOMEONE WHO BREAKS DOWN BARRIERS SO THEY CAN HEAR THE TRUTH?

Ministry Partner Spotlight: Sista2Sista

One of Bellevue’s values is “City Renewal,” which is why we partner with Sista2Sista, a ministry in the Binghamton community that provides housing, meals, rest, and healthy relationships for women struggling to break free from prostitution and addiction. No matter where these women are on their journey, they can always find short-term or long-term assistance through Sista2Sista. In the past year Sista2Sista has:

- Served 40–45 women per week through their drop-in center.
- Helped seven women leave prostitution.
- Led five women to become followers of Jesus!

These women are finding freedom because Christians are taking the Gospel to them where they are. Just because we attend a church with thousands of people doesn’t mean that our mission is completed. It’s not only prostitutes who need to hear the Gospel; there are people enveloped in poverty, filled with anger, drained from the effects of abuse,

overwhelmed with the stress of parenting, and so much more who need to hear about God’s love for them. Our city is filled with hundreds of thousands of people who are not right with God but don’t know how to reach Him. Will you be someone who breaks down barriers so they can hear the truth?

Leader, pull up the “Life on Mission” app on your device and instruct your Life Group to open the app on their devices. Choose one of the Gospel presentations and walk everyone through it. (There are videos of both presentations under the “Resources” tab that you can show your Life Group.) Pair your group members and instruct them to practice presenting the Gospel to each other. Afterward allow several volunteers to talk about their experience of learning to share the Gospel.

REDEMPTION THREAD

Go back to Matthew 1. Instead of viewing this passage as a boring genealogy, it can be interpreted as God’s declaration that He’s a promise keeper. In the Patriarch Era God promised Abraham that He would bless the whole world through him. God’s promise was carried on with each subsequent generation through God-fearing men, foreign women, Israelite kings, and regular people. As Israel moved through all the eras of the Old Testament, God never wavered in His promise. Though His hand was seemingly invisible, especially during the Silent Era (400 years between the Old and New Testaments), God was slowly fulfilling His promise at just the right time.

Read Matthew 1:16 (p. 981, Gospel Era)—“Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Mary gave birth to Jesus, who is called the Messiah.”

When God makes a promise, He is faithful to keep it.

CALL TO ACTION

Challenge your Life Group to volunteer with one of Bellevue’s ministry partners. Go online to bellevue.org/pathways and discuss the various ministries they could serve with. Talk about each partner’s mission and how your group can get involved.

CONCLUSION

Rahab was the least likely person to find salvation, yet God liberated her from her sin and grafted her into His family. Her journey reminds us that no one is too far away from God to be saved. We all live under the certainty of judgment, but when we make a decision of faith, we will experience the reality of God’s salvation. May we remember this truth for ourselves, and may it prompt us to proclaim it to our city.

NEXT GEN

CAN ANYONE BE SAVED?

Joshua 2:1–24, 6:1–25

OPENING

Option 1: Wall Battle

Supplies: Boxes of various sizes, items to throw at the boxes (see below for examples), and a bag

Before class set up a wall of boxes on one end of your classroom. Place items to throw at the boxes in a bag at the opposite end of the classroom. Ask for volunteers to throw items at the boxes and give each volunteer one item from your bag. The volunteer who knocks over the most boxes with their item is the winner!

Afterward explain that the volunteer who had the right item was able to knock down the most boxes. Explain that in our lesson today the Israelites defeated Jericho because they obeyed God's directions. If they had tried to do anything else, they would have failed.

Examples of items to put in the bag: a feather, a tennis ball, a paper clip, an empty water bottle, and a balloon.

Option 2: Discussion Questions

1. Is there a cost to following God? What cost do teenagers have to pay when they follow God?
2. Do you ever look at someone and think they will never follow Christ, either because of their background or decisions? How come?
3. Do you have friends who are not Christians? Have you ever talked with them about Jesus? Why or why not?

APPLICATION

Form the students into several small groups. Instruct everyone to share the name of a friend who does not have a relationship with Christ. Then direct the groups to discuss how they could share the Gospel with their friends. Instruct the groups to pray for each friend they discussed. Pray over the groups and ask God to fill your students with courage to share Jesus with their friends.

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Additional Resources

Sista2Sista

sista2sista.co

bellevue.org/pathways

“Who Was Rahab in the Bible?”

gotquestions.org/life-Rahab.html

“Why Did the Israelite Spies Visit the House of Rahab the Prostitute?”

gotquestions.org/spies-Rahab.html

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**CONGRATULATIONS—
YOU FINISHED LESSON 13!**



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