Remember
"Remember God" – Deuteronomy 1-4
September 27, 2026

Mid-Fall Sermon Series

REMEMBER *A Study of the Book of Deuteronomy to Help Us Remember God and His Ways*			
Date	***Message Title***	***Remember God's***	***Scripture***
Sept 27	Remember God	Omnipresence	Deuteronomy 1-4
Oct 4	Remember the 10 Commandments	Jealous Love	Deuteronomy 5
Oct 11	Remember the Shema	Three in One	Deuteronomy 6
Oct 18	*The Church Has Left the Building* – doing Deuteronomy in our community		
Oct 25	Remember Holiness	Holiness	Deuteronomy 7-11
Nov 1	Remember Worship	Incomparableness	Deuteronomy 12-16
Nov 8	Remember Marriage and the Family	Greatness	Deuteronomy 16-21
Nov 15	Remember the Orphan, Widow, and Immigrant	Justice	Deuteronomy 22-26
Nov 22	Remember God's Covenant	Mystery	Deuteronomy 27-30
Nov 29	Remember to Plan for the Future	Eternalness	Deuteronomy 31-34

Overview of the Book of Deuteronomy

- ***Deuteronomy 1:1-5***
- After wandering in the wilderness for 40 years, Israel comes to Moab and the edge of the Promised Land. Moses delivers three sermons to prepare the Israelites before they go into the Promised Land without him.
- The theme of these three sermons is "Remember":
  - Sermon #1: **Remember God's discipline** (Deuteronomy Chap 1-4)
  - Sermon #2: **Remember God's law** (Deuteronomy Chap 5-26)
  - Sermon #3: **Remember God's covenant** (Deuteronomy Chap 27-34)
- At least 16 times, Moses exhorts the Israelites to "remember" or "take care, lest you forget" (Deuteronomy 4:23; 5:15; 6:12; 7:18; 8:2,11,18; 9:7; 15:15; 16:3,12; 24:9,18,22; 25:17; 32:7).
- George Santayana: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."
- Application #1 – What is a past lesson learned that I need to remember and take care, lest I forget?
- Homework: Watch The Bible Project's video: "Book of Deuteronomy Summary"

Fun Facts About Deuteronomy

- "Deuteronomy" means "second law." Deuteronomy is a retelling of God's law before going into the Promised Land.
- Jews would read the entirety of the Book of Deuteronomy aloud once per year every year during the Feast of Booths (Deuteronomy 31:9-13).
- Deuteronomy was Jesus' favorite book of the Bible. Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy more than any other Old Testament book.
- Jesus' all-time favorite Bible verse comes from Deuteronomy.
  - ***Matthew 22:36-38*** – *Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law? And Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment."* (Jesus quoting Deut. 6:5).
- Deuteronomy was Jesus' #1 sword for spiritual warfare. When the devil tempted Jesus in the wilderness in Matthew 4:1-11, Jesus said "It is written" three times and quoted from Deuteronomy all three times:
  - ***Matthew 4:4*** – *It is written: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."* (Jesus quoting Deuteronomy 8:3)
  - ***Matthew 4:7*** – *It is written: "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."* (Jesus quoting Deuteronomy 6:16)
  - ***Matthew 4:10*** – *Be gone, Satan! For it is written: "You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve."* (Jesus quoting Deuteronomy 6:13)
- Application #2 – Follow Jesus' example and hide God's Word in your heart so that you can use it when you are tempted. If Jesus needed to use these swords, how much more do we? Use Jesus' favorite swords in your daily life:
  - ☐ Deuteronomy 6:5 – Love God to the max
  - ☐ Deuteronomy 6:13 – Worship God only
  - ☐ Deuteronomy 6:16 – Don't put God to the test
  - ☐ Deuteronomy 8:3 – Live by God's Word (vs. food)

Outline of Deuteronomy 1-4: Remember God's Discipline

- Preamble to the whole book (1:1-5)
- Remember leaving Mt. Sinai (1:6-18)
- Remember traveling from Mt. Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea (1:19-46)
- Remember 38 Years of wandering in the wilderness (2:1-3:29)
- Remember being on the Plains of Moab (4:1-43)

Four Things to Remember in Order to Thrive (Deuteronomy 1-4)

1. Remember to get going (1:6-18)

- **Key verses: *Deuteronomy 1:6-8***
- Mount Horeb is another name for Mount Sinai
- The Israelites had been camped at the base of Mt. Sinai for 11 months and 19 days (Exodus 19:1; Numbers 10:11). During this time, Moses received the Ten Commandments, the Mosaic covenant was established, and the Tabernacle was built.
- Edward Woods: "The people had stayed long enough at this mountain. The purpose for Israel being brought to Sinai was now complete. It was time to move on. Why? Because the focus of Moses' exhortation in Deuteronomy is the promise of land (v.8)."
- The Israelites were complacent to stay at Mt. Sinai forever, but God had something better for them – the Promised Land. The Lord had to speak to their complacency and say, "It's time to move on!"

- Application #3 – Where is God saying to me, "It's time to move on"?
  - ☐ Complacency in my marriage
  - ☐ Complacency in my parenting
  - ☐ Complacency in my relationship with God
  - ☐ Complacency in my habits
  - ☐ An unhealthy relationship
  - ☐ An unhealthy job situation

2. Remember to obey (1:19-46)

- **Key verses***: **Deuteronomy 1:19-40***
- Note in 1:28 that their fears are great people and great walls.
- Note in 1:29-30 that God tried to remind them of the victory He gave them back in Egypt with the 10 plagues and the exodus and the parting of the Red Sea.
- God is reminding the Israelites what happens when they DON'T obey. Their consequence was that their generation would NOT get to go into the Promised Land. Their generation would wander in the desert for 38 more years, and then their children's generation would get to go in. Here in Deuteronomy, Moses is now addressing the children's generation: Learn from the mistakes of your parents' generation. Remember! Don't repeat their mistakes!
- Note that even "the great Moses" is not exempt from this need to obey. Moses got angry at the Israelites and disobeyed God's command to speak to the rock rather than strike it (Deut. 1:37; 3:23-27)
- Note that Joshua remembered and learned this lesson. When it was time to lead them into the Promised Land, Joshua sent only TWO spies (vs. twelve) into Jericho (Joshua 2:1). Two was the number of believing spies in Deuteronomy 1:36,38 (Caleb and Joshua).
- Application #4 – What lessons do I need to learn from my parents' generation and not repeat in my life?
  - ☐ Relationships are more important than career. Avoid workaholism and prioritize relationships with God and people.
  - ☐ Relationships are more important than money. Avoid chasing money and stuff and chase after God and people instead.
  - ☐ Politics and walking with Jesus are NOT one and the same. Although our faith informs our positions on issues like abortion and the poor and immigration, Christ-followers can be Democrats or Republicans or Independents.
  - ☐ Emotional intelligence matters. Do not brush off trauma, stress, or mental health struggles with a "suck it up" attitude. Be self-aware of what you are feeling and have the courage to be transparent and vulnerable with others.
  - ☐ A walk with Jesus is more than just church attendance. A walk with Jesus involves being born again, being filled with Christ's Spirit, serving others, and walking in obedience to God's Word.

3. Remember who God is (2:1-3:29)

- **Key verses: *Deuteronomy 2:1,14-15***
- Chapters 2 & 3 recount 38 years of journeying including traveling through Seir (2:1-8a), Moab (2:8b-15), Ammon (2:16-23), and conquering Sihon (2:24-37) and Og (3:1-11). Of special note is how God repeatedly reminds the Israelites that He defeated giants and walled cities:
  - ➢ Giants in Moab and Seir (2:10-12)
  - ➢ Giants in Ammon and Seir (2:20-23)
  - ➢ High walls and giants in Bashan (3:4-5,11)
- It was their fear of giants that kept the Israelites out of the Promised Land 38 years ago (Numbers 13:27-29,31-33). And in just a few weeks, the Israelites would be encountering the high and fortified walls of Jericho. Moses is reminding them of God's power and faithfulness in overcoming giants and high walls.
- The ultimate theme of Deuteronomy is "Remember God"!!! Remember His attributes!! He is all-powerful!!! Giants and high walls are NOTHING before Him!!!
- **Key verses: *Deuteronomy 3:21-22; 4:9***
- David learned these Bible accounts when he was a boy and took them to heart when standing before a giant named Goliath (1 Sam 17).
- Application #5 – As I face my giants and high walls, I choose to remember who God is, remember what He did for Israel, remember what He has done for me, and to trust Him to defeat my giants and to get me over the high walls.
  - ☐ A giant that I am trusting God to defeat is…
  - ☐ A high wall that I am trusting God to overcome is…

4. Remember to worship only God (4:1-43)

- Chapter 4 is a call to obedience preparing us for Moses' next sermon that will begin in Chapter 5 calling Israel to "Remember God's Law."
- **Key verses: *Deuteronomy 4:9-10,13-16,23-24***
- Ajith Fernando: "I found God described as a jealous God thirty times in my ESV Bible. In Hebrew the word for jealousy is the same as the word for zeal. God, who is zealous in His commitment to His covenant people, is also jealous to see them remain faithful to Him. He will not tolerate unfaithfulness."
- Chris Wright: "The fire of Yahweh as a jealous God is the fire of an exclusive commitment to His people that demands an exclusive commitment in return."
- Application #6 – Lord, I repent of my unfaithfulness to You, and I cling to the cross of Jesus Christ for forgiveness and for the power of Your Spirit to walk in faithfulness to You.

Bottom Line: Don't let today's giants make you forget yesterday's God moments.