

Book of the Week: Small Group Guide

Week 2: Deuteronomy

June 14, 2026

Icebreaker Question: Share about a vow or commitment you've made (wedding vows, baptism vows, New Year's resolution, etc.). What helped you keep it, or what caused you to struggle with it?

Key Takeaways from the Sermon

1. **Deuteronomy is a vow renewal ceremony** - Moses calls Israel to renew their commitment to God before entering the Promised Land
 2. **The danger of assuming God** - We can take God's presence and faithfulness for granted
 3. **The Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4-5)** - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength"
 4. **Faith decisions are made deliberately or by default** - We either choose to grow or we will naturally fade
 5. **Generational impact** - Adults who fade often raise children who abandon faith; adults who remember raise devoted followers
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Discussion Questions

Section 1: Personal Reflection on Fading

1. The sermon asked: "Over the last six months to two years, can you say you have thrived in your faith or faded?" How would you honestly answer that question? What evidence supports your answer?
2. Moses warned Israel: "Be careful...so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart" (Deuteronomy 4:9). What spiritual experiences or truths have you witnessed that you don't want to forget?
3. The sermon mentioned two ways people fade: when life is going too well (complacency) or when facing struggles (anger at God). Which of these do you find more challenging personally? Why?

Section 2: The Heart of the Matter

4. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-5 together (the Shema). What does it mean practically to love God with "all your heart, soul, and strength"? What would that look like in your daily life?
5. Jesus quoted this passage when asked about the greatest commandment (Matthew 22:37-38). Why do you think this command is more fundamental than simply following rules or behaviors?
6. The sermon mentioned "closets we keep closed" - areas of our lives not fully surrendered to God. Without sharing specifics if uncomfortable, what makes it hard to give God access to every area of our lives?

Section 3: Generational Faith

7. Discuss this statement: "Adults who fade raise children who easily abandon faith. Adults who remember generally raise a generation of devoted followers." Do you agree? What examples have you seen (positive or negative)?
8. Even if you don't have children, how does your spiritual life impact those around you - younger believers, friends, coworkers, or family members?
9. What practical steps can we take to "pass on" vibrant faith to the next generation rather than spiritual apathy?

Section 4: Choosing Life

10. Moses said, "I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life" (Deuteronomy 30:19). What does "choosing life" look like for you this week? What specific choice do you need to make?
11. The sermon stated: "Unless you stay continually exposed under the light and heat of the Son of God, your life will fade." What spiritual practices help you stay "exposed to the Son"? Which ones have you let slip?

Closing Reflection

Read together Deuteronomy 30:19-20

"This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

Reflection Questions:

- What is God calling you to remember?
- Where have you been fading that needs renewal?
- What does it mean for you personally that "the Lord is your life"?

Share prayer requests related to areas where group members want to grow stronger in their faith or stop fading.

Closing Prayer – Pray together using these themes:

- Confession of areas where we've faded or taken God for granted
- Thanksgiving for God's faithfulness even when we've been unfaithful
- Commitment to love God with all our heart, soul, and strength
- Prayer for the next generation and our influence on them