



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap Breakout Group Discussion Questions Week 10

Day 64 Num 23-25
Day 65 Num 26-27
Day 66 Num 28-30
Day 67 Num 31-32
Day 68 Num 33-34
Day 69 Num 35-36
Day 70 Deut 1-2

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. The words we use are important and significant, but Balaam knows that his words are worthless against God's plan; he can't curse people God has blessed. How does this idea compare to the common belief that we have the power to speak things into existence?

Can you think of a time when you've been tempted to ascribe too much power to your own words? Or to someone else's?

3. Moses has pushed back regularly on some of God's declarations about what He's going to do. Does he ever push back on God's decision that he won't enter the promised land (after striking the rock in front of all the people, instead of speaking to it as God commanded)?

Why do you think he responds to this the way he does?

4. Why do you think God needs to keep reminding people to worship only Him and to rest?

How are those two commandments connected?

5. Which commandments are the most difficult for you to keep?
6. Why is God so adamant that the Israelites drive out all the Canaanites in the promised land?
7. Is the distinction between "murderer" and manslayer" in Numbers 35 a challenging one for you? Why or why not?
8. What does it reveal about God's character that He protects specific plots of land for the descendants of Esau and Lot, even though they aren't among the tribes of Israel? Does Scripture give us any indication of why He does this?
9. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Ask God to help us accept His plan for our lives, even if it is different than what we hoped for
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap Breakout Group Discussion Questions Week 11

Day 71 Deut 3-4
Day 72 Deut 5-7
Day 73 Deut 8-10
Day 74 Deut 11-13
Day 75 Deut 14-16
Day 76 Deut 17-20
Day 77 Deut 21-23

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. The Transjordan tribes (Reuben, Gad, half of Manasseh) ask for land east of the Jordan River that is not part of the original land God promised to the Israelites, and God gives it to them. What does this reveal about God's heart?
Since this land isn't part of the original covenant, does it or should it have the same promises attached to it?
3. Why does God need to give a refresher on all the laws to the people entering into the promised land?
4. Moses gives three warnings to the Israelites about the thoughts they may be tempted to have (Deuteronomy 7:17-18; 8:17-18; and 9:4). Which of these types of thoughts are you most prone to having?
What truths from Scripture help you fight those lies when they creep into your mind?
5. The punishment for a false prophet in ancient Israel is death. Why do you think it's important for their laws about this to be strict?
Can we know if someone is a false prophet? How?
6. The rabbis have a tendency to "build a fence around the law" but then treat the man-made "fence" like it's the God-given law. Can you think of any parallels to this in modern Christendom?
7. It's vital for the Israelites to live differently from the pagan Canaanites in the promised land—not worshipping or grieving in the ways they do, through cutting themselves and shaving their heads. Is it important for us to consider these types of things today? Why or why not?
8. What do you think God intends by commanding the Israelites to "Purge the evil" from their midst? How is this similar to and different from Paul's use of the phrase in 1 Corinthians 5:13? And why are both important?
9. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Help us to live as countercultural Christians
- Help us to discern false teachers from true
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap Breakout Group Discussion Questions Week 12

Day 78 Deut 24-27
Day 79 Deut 28-29
Day 80 Deut 30-31
Day 81 Deut 32-34, Ps 91
Day 82 Josh 1-4
Day 83 Josh 5-8
Day 84 Josh 9-11

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. In Deuteronomy 28-30, God lays out the blessings and curses for the covenant He is entering into with the Israelites. Why is it important for us not to take these verses out of context and apply them today? What should we be looking for when we read these verses that does still apply today?
3. What purpose, or purposes, do the curses in the covenant agreement serve?
4. Read Deuteronomy 29:29 aloud. Is this verse comforting or frustrating to you? Why?
5. In Deuteronomy 31:17, God says the Israelites will blame their troubles on His absence instead of recognizing sin as the source of the problem. Have you falsely accused God for your trials?
6. Are you more inclined to rebel against God during times of trouble or in times of blessing? Why?
7. In Deuteronomy 32:21, God reveals another phase of His multistep process to bring restoration in His relationship with humanity. He makes a promise to pursue the Gentiles (non-Jews) as a part of His plan to draw Israel back to Himself someday. How does this process help reveal and clarify the distinction between Israel (the nation of people) and the church?
8. As the Israelites enter the promised land, God establishes celebrations that were connected to the exodus. Through this repetition, what truths do you think God is trying to reveal and reinforce about His character and His plan?
9. Achan's sin results in Israel losing the battle against Ai. What does this reveal about how God views and treats Israel? What aspects of this, if any, can be applied to the church today?
10. In our reading this week, God uses a lot of strange tactics in warfare: trumpets, torches, hail, panic, and cosmic phenomena. What does this reveal about God's power and how He works?

11. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Ask God to teach us from Achan's story to not sin, as our sin can hurt others
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap Breakout Group Discussion Questions Week 13

Day 85 Josh 12-15
Day 86 Josh 16-18
Day 87 Josh 19-21
Day 88 Josh 22-24
Day 89 Jdg 1-2
Day 90 Jdg 3-5
Day 91 Jdg 6-7

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. Did you learn anything new about the location or layout of Israel through our study of tribal allotments this week? If so, what was it?
3. In the dispute over the altar at the border, the western tribes and the Transjordan tribes each have their own perspective on what the altar means. They're able to resolve the misunderstanding and keep the peace through reasoning and humility. Can you think of a time when you misunderstood someone else's motives or wrongly accused them?
4. Read Judges 2:10 aloud. One of Israel's problems is that they failed to teach their children the truth about God. As the older generation dies off, the younger generation is lured in by the ways of the Canaanites. Think of a time when you forgot the truth about God and your heart was lured in by the world. What lies were you believing about God that led you astray?
5. God repeatedly warned the Israelites about what would happen if they didn't drive out the Canaanites. As He begins fulfilling that promise, they fall into a cycle of repentance and rebellion. Why is it so hard to obey God even when we know the outcome of disobedience will be disastrous?
6. Deborah the prophetess is the only judge in Israel who fully honors God and the one who follows His commands most closely. Given her heart to follow Him, why isn't she the one appointed to lead Israel into battle? What traits of a good leader are demonstrated in her relationship with Barak?
7. Read Judges 6:12-13 aloud. Have you ever felt like this? Have you ever questioned God's presence or work in your life when things weren't going as you'd hoped? What did you learn through that experience? What does Gideon learn through his experience?
8. Gideon is trepidatious about following God's lead and asks for repeated confirmation. Is this the same thing as testing God? Why or why not?
9. God reduces Gideon's army to increase God's glory. What aspects of God's character do we see displayed through His process of narrowing down the army in Judges 7:2-10?

10. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Pray that God gives us the boldness of Deborah and helps us learn to trust like He did for Gideon
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap Breakout Group Discussion Questions Week 15

Day 99 1 Sam 4-8
Day 100 1 Sam 9-12
Day 101 1 Sam 13-14
Day 102 1 Sam 15-17
Day 103 1 Sam 18-20, Ps 11, 59
Day 104 1 Sam 21-24
Day 105 Ps 7, 27, 31, 34, 52

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. The presence of God's earthly throne—the Ark of the Covenant—doesn't bring the Philistines the blessing they hoped it would. Later, we'll see that the people in an Israelite home where the ark is relocated are blessed by its presence (2 Samuel 6:10-12). What do these events reveal about the correlation between God, His presence, His blessings, and His children?
3. Why do you think God appoints a Benjamite as the first king of Israel? What function might this serve given Israel's recent history with that tribe?
4. Where does Saul go wrong in his leadership? Did we see any signs before hand that he would not make a good king? Why do you think God appointed this man to be Israel's first king?
5. What does the phrase "a man after God's own heart" (1 Samuel 13:14) mean? Does this mean David is perfect or that God approves of all of David's actions?
6. We saw lots of changes in Saul based on the presence of the Holy Spirit or the evil spirit that taunts him. We saw the evil spirit flee when David worshipped God. What are some things this reveals about God's Spirit and His authority over evil? Is this comforting? Why or why not?
7. Read Psalm 18:19 and Zephaniah 3:17 aloud. God demonstrates His joy and delight in His children all throughout Scripture. This week we saw that the only time Scripture records God laughing is when He laughs *at His enemies* (Psalm 59:8, 2:4, and 37:12). How do these two things work in tandem? How do they display a fuller picture of God's character and emotions?
8. Read David's words in 1 Samuel 22:23 aloud. Saul and his men accuse David of "hiding" from him (23:18, 23), but David knows he's safe because of God's promises to him about being king. Saul tries to paint him in a negative light, but David is being faithful and following God's directives. Compare and contrast Saul's fear and David's faith especially in light of Saul's power and David's vulnerability. What aspect of this encourages or challenges you?

9. David is God's appointed man for the throne. Why do you think God allows him to suffer through so many trials and attacks on his life? What do you think he learns about God in that process that he might not have known otherwise? Have you ever been through something similar?

10. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Help us be men and women after God's own heart
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap Breakout Group Discussion Questions Week 14

Day 92 Jdg 8-9
Day 93 Jdg 10-12
Day 94 Jdg 13-15
Day 95 Jdg 16-18
Day 96 Jdg 19-21
Day 97 Ruth 1-4
Day 98 1 Sam 1-3

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. Gideon is fearful but obedient, then he grows arrogant and wicked. What do you think prompts these changes in him? Which parts of his story resonated with you most? Why?
3. Read Judges 9:22-25 aloud. God takes credit for sending an evil spirit between wicked "King" Abimelech and the leaders of his town, Shechem. Now read 9:56-57. What does this story reveal to us about God? Is this comforting or offensive to you? Why?
4. In Judges 10, when the Israelites cry out to God for help, He tells them to seek help from the gods they've been worshipping instead. What prompts Him to change His response? (See 10:10-16 for help.) what does this reveal about Him?
5. Jephthah's story is a cautionary tale about the tragic consequences of misunderstanding God's Word. While we can hope he didn't actually follow through with sacrificing his daughter, we've likely all followed through on our own misunderstanding of Scripture at some point. Can you think of a time when you fervently followed counsel you thought was from God's Word but later found out wasn't?
6. Samson seems to believe his strength is in his long hair, but where does the text say his power comes from? How does it damage our view of God to take credit for our giftings?
7. Micah wants the appearance of godliness, but it's merely a path to power and control. The Danites have the same issue. Do you think they believe they're doing the right thing, or do they know better? Have you ever aimed for things that appeared godly but were actually self-exalting?
8. The story of the Levite and his concubine is gruesome and horrific. The wicked murder of one woman leads to the death of thousands in retaliation via Israel's first civil war, which God authorizes. What does this reveal about God's hatred of evil and His heart for Justice and righteousness?
9. Read Judges 21:25 aloud. How do you see this playing out in your life today? Where do you do what you want without consulting God? What does the world look like when everyone does that?

10. What did we learn about God from seeing His response to Ruth's faith and Naomi's despair?

11. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Ask God for pure motives in living for Him and help with clear discernment of His Word
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group
Discussion Questions Week 16

Day 106 Ps 56, 120, 140-142
Day 107 1 Sam 25-27
Day 108 Ps 17, 35, 54, 63
Day 109 1 Sam 28-31, Ps 18
Day 110 Ps 121, 123-125, 128-130
Day 111 2 Sam 1-4
Day 112 Ps 6, 8-10, 14, 16, 19, 21

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. It's easy for us to want to be the source of God's vengeance toward our enemies, instead of trusting Him to act with perfect justice in the grand scheme of things. Read Psalm 35:11-14 aloud, then read 35:22-26 aloud. How does David respond to his enemies personally, and how does David ask God to respond to them? What does this reveal about David's view of God?
3. What's wrong with Saul seeking guidance from a medium? What does this reveal about his view of God? What does it reveal about his need for control and a sense of certainty?
4. In 1 Samuel 30, David has six hundred men following him. Of those, two hundred are too tired to go fight against the Amalekites. He and the four hundred others win the battle, but many of those who went with David are described as "wicked and worthless" and their actions are selfish and greedy. Read Luke 10:38-42 aloud. Compare and contrast these two sets of men with Mary and Martha. Discuss the distinction between actions and motives.
5. When David shows generosity to the two hundred who were too tired to fight, it points us back to Jesus and His generosity toward all of us—who have done nothing to earn the spoils of a battle we didn't fight. Can you think of any other stories or parables from the life of Jesus that point to this reality?
6. This week we looked at the dangers of taking the promises in chapters like Psalm 128 and claiming them for ourselves. How has reading God's story in a chronological order helped you grow and develop your understanding of which kinds of verses are specific and which kinds are general?
7. Read Psalm 130:4 aloud. How has your understanding of the fear of the Lord changed as we've moved through Scripture together?
8. With David as king of Judah, the largest tribe, and Ishbosheth as king of all the remaining tribes, David is still waiting to officially be the king of Israel. Why do you think God didn't

completely fulfill this promise the moment Saul died? What do we see happening in the waiting and the process?

9. Psalm 8:2-6 speaks of how unique mankind is among all God's creation and how He has crowned us with glory and honor. Then Psalm 14:1-3 (and Romans 3:10-12) point out that none are righteous, and no one seeks God. How can these two ideas coexist in the fullness of truth?
10. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Ask God for patience in waiting for His plan for our lives to unfold and trust that perfect justice is in His hands
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap Breakout Group Discussion Questions Week 17

Day 113 1 Ch 1-2
Day 114 Ps 43-45, 49, 84-85, 87
Day 115 1 Ch 3-5
Day 116 Ps 73, 77-78
Day 117 1 Ch 6
Day 118 Ps 81, 88, 92-93
Day 119 1 Ch 7-10

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. What does it reveal about God that He gives us glimpses of the stories of Nimrod, Peleg, and Achan in the genealogies of 1 Chronicles 1-2?
3. David repeatedly “preaches the gospel to himself” in the Psalms, reminding himself of the truth of God’s goodness amid all his trials. How often do your thoughts and emotions lie to you? How often do you need to be reminded of the truth? Have you made this a part of your regular prayer life or thought life? If so, what does that look like?
4. The tribes of Reuben, Simeon, and Levi were all impacted by the sins of their namesakes. Reuben slept with his father’s concubine, and Simeon and Levi killed all the men of Shechem. In Scripture, God often regards groups of His own people as a *whole*, but since our modern, highly individualistic society favors the notion of personal rights and responsibilities, it’s easy to view God’s actions in a negative light. What are some of the positive implications of the way God’s people are often regarded as a whole?
5. In Psalm 73 and Psalm 78, Asaph gives us two examples of what it’s like to have a change in perspective. When his focus is on himself or others, he grows bitter toward God. When his focus is on God and His goodness, he is humbled and repents. How have you seen this kind of transition play out in your own life? Can you think of a recent time when your mind was renewed?
6. Knowing that the Israelites will eventually go into exile, is it easier or harder for you to watch them wander off into sin repeatedly? Does it make it easier knowing God will bring them back to the land eventually? Would your perspective change if you were the one they were sinning against? Why or why not?
7. Read Psalm 92:1-2 aloud. The psalmist says it’s good to bookend our days with praise. What are some ways you’ve incorporated the practice of praise into your days? What are some new things you’re excited to try?
8. In Scripture, we see three accounts of Saul’s death, which include two different versions of how it happened—one told by the authors of Scripture in 1 Samuel 31:3-6 and 1

Chronicles 10:3-6, and one told by the Amalekite sojourner in 2 Samuel 1:6-10. Out of context, these accounts seem to contradict each other. How does the inclusion of all three stories help us understand the truth and teach us the importance of reading in context?

9. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Ask God to help us keep our focus on God's goodness and to bookend our days with praise
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible