Remember Worship: God's Incomparableness, Deuteronomy 12-16

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE: NOV 01, 2026

Expect to Experience God in Community

Allow each person to introduce themselves (if needed) and share 'High, Low, Buffalo', Best/Worst, or an equivalent.

High/Best= something good from the week, Low/Worst=something not good or challenging from the week, Buffalo=something surprising or random from the week.

Note: Anyone can choose to pass and not participate.

Icebreaker:

Materials: One modest or 'white elephant' prize and for each small group member, a piece of paper and pencil or pen.

Each person takes a turn and states something true or false about themselves without revealing which one. The other members of the group guess whether the statement is fact or fiction and records their guess on the piece of paper. After all have taken a turn, the Group Leader asks each person to reveal whether their statement was true or false. Score 1,000,000 points for each correct guess. The person with the highest number of points wins the prize and a robust round of applause! In case of a tie, the Group Leader performs a coin toss to determine who wins the prize.

Conversation Starters (select one):

1. Share with the group a time, event, or change in your life that absolutely amazed you. Why does this stand out?
2. Share with the group the title of your favorite worship song, hymn, or psalm. Why is it your favorite?

Connect: Humans tend to worship what they love; e.g. money, work, status, food, etc. Because of this and experiences during their forty-year journey out of Egypt, Moses reminds the Israelites what God commands before they are permitted to enter the promised land. In Deuteronomy 12-16, Moses reminds them what their incomparable God requires for worship, avoiding temptation, avoiding contamination, trusting God, and remembering the great works he's done to set apart his chosen people.

Expect to Encounter God in His Word

The Small Group Leader selects two or three of the chapters and questions below.

Deuteronomy 12: Remember How and Where to Worship God

- Read Deuteronomy 12:1-12 and 12:28-31

- Why did God require the Israelites to destroy the places of worship existing in the promised land?
- What do these scriptures imply about God's holiness and his ultimate purpose for the Israelites?
- In v. 28, why do you think worshipping God—as he commands—would make life 'go well with you and your children'?
- What 'places of worship' exist today that should be destroyed?

Deuteronomy 13: Remember to Recognize and Avoid Temptation

- Read Deuteronomy 13:1-4, 6-10,
- Why do you think God allowed false prophets to test the Israelites?
- In what ways might believers be tested in 2026?
- In v.9-10, why did God call for the death penalty? What does this say about God's holiness and the presence of evil?
- Read Matthew 18:15-17. According to Jesus, how should believers deal with sin within the church? How is this response different than the commands in Duet. 13:9-10?

Deuteronomy 14: Remember to Recognize and Avoid Contamination

- Read Deuteronomy 14.
- Why did God permit the Israelites to eat some animals and not others? How did this set apart the Israelites from the Canaanites?
- What modern day diets set people apart from others? Why?
- In v.22-23, the Israelites are commanded to eat their tithe in a communal meal with others. Moses said that this will remind them to 'fear the Lord always'. Why should this cause a participant in the meal to fear the Lord?
- In v.28-29, every three years, the Israelites were commanded to donate their annual tithe for the benefit of travelers, Levites, orphans, and widows. In what ways is Grace Fellowship accomplishing charity today?

Deuteronomy 15: Remember to Trust God in Whatever He Requires

- Read Deuteronomy 15:1-11.
- God commands the Israelites to help their fellow believers by giving from the goodness of their hearts. In v.9, Moses warns them to avoid 'an unworthy thought in your heart' and to not 'look grudgingly on your poor brother'. What does this say about God's character and his care people? How could this behavior them set apart the Canaanites?

- Does God's command require charity from the people (e.g. the church) or from a government? Why would this matter?

Deuteronomy 16: Remember What God Has Done

- Read Deut.16:1. What did God do that is remembered every Passover?
- Read Deut.16:12. What did God do that is remembered during Feast of Weeks?
- Read Deut.16:13-16. What did God do that is remembered during Feast of Booths?
- Why do you think God commands his people to remember the great things that he did for them?
- How do you remember what Jesus did for you?

Expect to Experience God Through Faithful Response

God chose the Jewish people to set apart and set an example for the world, so that the world would witness God's chosen people and decide to worship him and not the many false gods. **God is incomparable.** No other god can do what the one true God can as proven by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Pray this together…

> This week, I will remember the great things God has done and worship him with my life.
>
> This week, I will remember the wonderous works of Jesus, and I will give thanks and pray that those who don't know him *and* those who reject him to turn to him and receive eternal life.

There is no one like our God!

Wrap Up

- Pray for each other, for the leadership of Grace Fellowship, and for the specific needs in your Small Group.
- Remind the group of the day, time, and location of the next small group meeting.