

Week of 04-23-2023
Series: The Story, Ch. 4, Pt. 2
Sermon: Choose Life
Text: Deuteronomy 1-34

Sermon Outline:

Biblical Truth: God does not change.

1. He has revealed Himself. (1:1-4:43)
 - a. In history.
 - b. In love.
 - c. Therefore, obey.
2. He chooses His people. (4:44-26:19)
 - a. Because of His covenant.
 - b. Because of His grace.
 - c. Therefore, love Him.
3. His people must choose Him. (27:1-34:12)
 - a. It's not too hard.
 - b. It's not a mystery.
 - c. Therefore, choose life.

Book Summary:

Deuteronomy recaps the first 3 books of the Bible in 3 sermons (or sermon series) on the Plains of Moab:

- Ch. 1-4, the 1st sermon series, serves as a **prologue** in which Moses recounts Israel's history.
- Ch. 4-26, the 2nd sermon series, restates the **terms** of God's covenant with His people.
- Ch. 27-30, the 3rd sermon series, restates the **blessings & curses** that come from keeping or breaking the covenant.
- And then in Ch. 31-34 Moses passes the **leadership** baton to Joshua, just before his own death.

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Hebrews 13:8. God has not changed and He will never change.
 - What are implications for believing that God's words, standards, and laws have changed over time? Where have you noticed this happening?
 - What are effective ways to communicate to a progressive culture that God's words, standards, and laws do not change?
 - How can a verse like Hebrews 13:8 be one of the most comforting and encouraging verses in the Bible?
2. Read Deuteronomy 4:32-35. God has revealed Himself and continues to reveal Himself.
 - Spend time sharing how God (in the past and now) has revealed Himself in specific ways to you "that you might know that the LORD is God; there is no other besides him."
3. Read Deuteronomy 7:6-8; 9:5-7. God chooses His people.
 - Was there a time in your life where you thought: "*I am so bad that God won't forgive/save me?*"
 - Or have you ever thought: "*I am good enough to at least contribute something to my salvation?*"
 - If so, how/when did you realize either of those statements were not true?
 - If you are a Christian, do you still struggle with either of those mindsets?
 - Is it possible for the same person to vacillate between both statements throughout his/her life?
4. Read Romans 10:6-9 (ref. Deuteronomy 30:11-14). God's people must choose Him.
 - Consider and discuss the words "Lord" and "believe" in Romans 10:9. How is the choice to place your trust in Christ both easy and difficult?
 - How should we present this choice to others when sharing the gospel with them?