



Check In

Connect with God honestly about where you are at



Reflect

"Review until" something pops to talk to God about



Share

Talk with God & others about what is now on your heart to do

Deuteronomy

Session 6 - Word One: Other Gods

Check In

God is glad to connect with you. He wants to hear about how you are doing. Take a moment to notice your primary emotion of the day as a way to help yourself be fully present. Consider whether you are primarily sad, angry, scared, happy, tender, etc. Share with God that emotion. Write out: What are you thankful for? Ask him, "How does he feel about you?"

Reflect

Spend some time with the biblical texts and the resources below. Do so until something in particular pops out to you, you do not need to get through everything. Talk with God about what encourages, challenges, or confuses you.

Read Deuteronomy 6-11

Moses expounds on Word One (5:7): "You shall have no other gods beside Me." His explanation begins with the enduring words that become the daily prayer of the Hebrews (the Shema): "Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love Adonai you God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." The reality is that God alone operates "in the heavens" as the sole divine authority. Each section of sayings unpacks a different kind of devotion that God deserves as the sole divine authority: remaining faithful in prosperity, remembering to tell your children about God and his salvation, avoiding mixing with idolaters and getting rid of idols, devotion to the words of God as to daily bread, not mistaking your victories with your goodness, remembering your own idolatry, and faithfulness to God from the heart. Critical to this is the picture of circumcision of the heart. This is the "covenant cut" with the people. This is not simply an outward fulfillment of rules or morality, but a personal devotion to God. Moses concludes this summary with an exhortation that the reality of devotion to God is a choice between life and death, blessing and curses (11:26-32).

Relationship - What stands out to you about being in relationship with God and our stewardship as his covenant people?

Revelation - What do you notice about the reality of God's world and ways?

Character - What do you learn about God as holy, and how, as his covenant people, we are invited to be like him?

Read "[Word 1: other gods](#)" by John Walton and listen his [Deuteronomy: Session 4](#) on living out Torah and the [Final Q&A](#).
Optional: Listen to Fr. Josiah Trenham on "[The 1st Commandment](#)."

Share

Be quiet for 3 minutes. What do you sense God is saying to you? How will you pursue being faithful with that this week? The community is blessed when we share out of our life experience, gifting, time with God, and reflection on scripture. We believe everyone contributes to teaching. What insight, question, or experience do you want to share with us?

Steps for Church Families of Prayerful Love:

- What are you thankful for? What challenges are happening in your life, family and community?
- What did you like/not like about the Scripture?
- What did you learn about God and people from the Scripture?
- What do you sense God inviting you to live out with him this week?
- Who do you know who needs to hear this?
- Ask God: How can I bless (body, labor, emotions, social, spiritual) those people who need this?