

“In the Beginning”

Series: Binge Reading the Bible

Read: Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Mark 12:28-31; James 1:23-25; Matt. 7:7-9; Isaiah 55:11; Matt. 5:17
1 Peter 2:9

- How often do you read the Bible?
 - Why or for what purpose do you read it?
 - How does it shape one’s faith?

- Without looking, can you name the first five books of the bible?
 - What are these five books commonly called? (hint: Greek starts w/ P & Hebrew starts w/ T)
 - Of those five books, which one are you most familiar?
 - What is one word that describes each book?

- Where, or from whom, did you learn your ethics/morals?
 - Why is a personal moral compass important?

⁴Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. Deut. 6:4-9

This passage is arguably the most important text in the Pentateuch. Why do you think it’s so important?

- In verse 6, God says that His commands “are to be on your hearts”. What do you think this means?

- In Mark 12:28-31, Jesus gives the “Great Commandment”. How does this command lead to holiness and fulfill the law?

- How does the Pentateuch encourage God’s people to be different or set apart from all other cultures and tribes?

- How has the Law of Moses shaped/influenced governments and societies?

- How do the first five books of the Bible set the tone, purpose, and the context for the rest of the story of redemption?

- What is a ‘mezuzah’?
 - What do Christians have or do to remind them of their covenant relationship with God?

Prayer for the week:

God, thank you for preserving your Word, your will, and your ways. Without it, we would be lost. Give us a desire and a hunger to know you more. Draw us closer to you as we read your story of redemption which is our story of salvation. Thank you for loving us so deeply. In Jesus name, Amen.

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