

Bible in a Year Study Questions – Day 91 – April 1

Today's Readings:

Deuteronomy 25 & 26

Psalm 39.7-11

Proverbs 13.4-6

Luke 6.1-26

1. How does Deuteronomy 25.1-3 demonstrate God's concern for resolving conflicts and maintaining peace within the community?
2. How do verses 2-3 reflect the principle of the punishment fitting the crime?
3. Reflect on the prohibition against muzzling an ox while it is treading out grain in verse 4. What does this command reveal about God's concern for fairness in work relationships?
4. Discuss the command to marry a deceased brother's widow in verses 5-10. What cultural and societal factors might have influenced this command, and what principles of family and inheritance does it uphold?
5. Reflect on the consequences of refusing to fulfill the duty of levirate marriage as described in verses 7-10. How do these consequences reflect the seriousness of neglecting one's responsibilities to the family?
6. Explore the symbolism and significance of removing the sandal in the context of the ritual of levirate marriage in verse 9. What might this action represent, and what does it signify about the fulfillment of obligations?

7. Reflect on the command to remember and blot out the memory of Amalek in verses 17-19. What historical significance does this command hold, and what spiritual lessons can we draw from it?

8. Reflect on the instructions regarding bringing the firstfruits to the priest as an offering to the Lord in Deuteronomy 26.1-11. What principles of gratitude and stewardship do these instructions teach?

9. Explore the significance of reciting the history of Israel's deliverance from Egypt as part of bringing the firstfruits offering, as described in verses 5-9. How does remembering God's faithfulness in the past inspire gratitude and trust in the present?

10. Reflect on the connection between the land that God has given to Israel and the obligation to bring offerings to the Lord, as described in verses 10-11. How does this connection reinforce the principle of stewardship and dependence on God's provision?

11. Explore the importance of caring for the Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows in the context of bringing offerings to the Lord, as described in verses 12-15. How does this command demonstrate God's concern for justice and compassion within the community?

12. Reflect on the solemn oath made by the Israelites to obey and follow the commands of the Lord in verses 16-19. What significance does this oath hold, and how does it shape Israel's identity as God's chosen people?

13. Discuss the concept of being a "holy people" set apart for the Lord, as described in verse 19. What does it mean to be holy, and how should this calling shape Israel's relationship with God and the surrounding nations?

14. Reflect on the blessings promised to those who faithfully obey the commands of the Lord, as outlined in verses 18-19. How do these blessings reflect God's desire for the well-being and prosperity of his people?

15. Consider the implications of the command to set aside a tithing of the produce of the land for the Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows. How can we apply this principle of generosity and care for the vulnerable in our own lives and communities?

16. Reflect on the psalmist's plea to the Lord to hear his prayer and not remain silent (Psalm 39:7). How does this plea reflect the psalmist's dependence on God in times of trouble?

17. How do these verses fit with the theme of the entirety of Psalm 39?

18. Reflect on the contrast between the sluggard and the diligent as described in Proverbs 13:4. What characteristics distinguish the diligent from the sluggard, according to this verse?

19. Reflect on the principle of righteousness and integrity in contrast to wickedness and deceit, as described in verse 5. How does integrity lead to righteousness, and how does righteousness preserve the way of the blameless?

20. Reflect on the contrast between the upright and the wicked in verse 6. What characteristics distinguish the upright from the wicked, according to this verse?

21. Consider the practical implications of seeking righteousness and integrity in our daily lives. How can we cultivate these qualities in our thoughts, words, and actions?

22. Reflect on a time when you observed the consequences of laziness or deceit in someone's life. What lessons did you learn from that experience?

23. Reflect on the significance of Jesus' disciples plucking heads of grain on the Sabbath as described in Luke 6.1-5. How does Jesus respond to the Pharisees' accusation of Sabbath breaking, and what does his response reveal about his authority?

24. Explore the concept of Sabbath rest and its significance in Jewish tradition. How does Jesus' interpretation of Sabbath observance challenge traditional views and promote a deeper understanding of God's intentions for the Sabbath?

25. Reflect on the healing of the man with the withered hand on the Sabbath as described in verses 6-11. What does this miracle reveal about Jesus' compassion and his prioritization of human need over religious legalism?

26. Explore the reactions of the Pharisees and the scribes to Jesus' actions on the Sabbath in verses 7-11. How do their reactions reflect their misunderstanding of God's priorities and intentions?

27. Reflect on the calling of the twelve apostles as described in verses 12-16. What criteria does Jesus use in selecting his apostles, and what significance does this have for their future ministry?

28. Discuss the blessings and woes pronounced by Jesus in verses 20-26. How do these blessings and woes challenge conventional notions of happiness and success, and what do they reveal about God's values and priorities?

29. Explore the concept of radical love and generosity as taught by Jesus in verses 27-36. How does Jesus challenge his followers to love their enemies and show compassion to those who mistreat them?

30. Reflect on Jesus' teaching about judging others and the importance of self-examination in verses 37-42. How does Jesus challenge his followers to examine their own hearts and attitudes before passing judgment on others?

31. Which passage in today's reading impacted you the most? Is there a verse you would like to memorize and/or meditate on today?