

WARM-UP

- Tell us about one story in your family that has gotten passed down through generations.
- Recall a time you were mistaken. How did you respond and what did you do to fix the situation?
- Where is the farthest you have been from home? Tell us about what you experienced.

WORD *“Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”* **DEUTERONOMY 9:5**

God, through Moses, was making it clear to the Israelites that He had a purpose for bringing them into the good land He promised to their forefathers. He was ending the wickedness in those nations and bringing His people in to fulfill His great plan and mission—not just for their nation, but for the entire world. He would fulfill this through His covenant with Abraham and his descendants. Before they entered this Promised Land, Moses charged them to stay focused on this mission. God would pour out His abundant blessing, and He would use it to accomplish His mission. Today, we will look at two truths about the blessing of God.

1 | God blesses us even if we don't deserve it.

⁵“Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. ⁶Know, therefore, that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people.” **DEUTERONOMY 9:5-6**

The Israelites didn't always obey and trust God. Even after experiencing God's awesome miracles, they grumbled and complained against Moses, and ultimately, against God. Moses reminded them that they didn't deserve God's blessing and that they were *a stubborn people*. But he also assured them that God would bless them anyway. We, too, will be blessed by God not because of our own merits, but because of His faithfulness. We can never earn His blessing and provision. It is something He chose to give freely to anyone who would put their trust in Him. How was God's ultimate provision demonstrated on the cross? What does Romans 8:32 say about our salvation and God's grace and provision?

2 | God blesses us to be a blessing.

“Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”
DEUTERONOMY 9:5

God promised to make Abraham's name great so that he would *be a blessing* and that through him, *all the families of the earth shall be blessed* (Genesis 12:1–3). God had a higher purpose for bringing the Israelites into the Promised Land—to bless all families from every tribe and nation. Through Abraham, people would know who God is and what a covenant relationship with Him looks like. This was ultimately accomplished through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, as all who put their faith in Him become partakers of this promised covenant and its blessings (Galatians 3:13–14). In the same way, God's provision in our lives is not just for our enjoyment. He wants us to be a blessing to people around us—our family, community, nation, and even to other nations—primarily by proclaiming the gospel and using our God-given blessings in obedience to the Great Commission. How is your life a blessing to others? What do you want people to talk about and eventually remember you for?

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APPLICATION

- What is the purpose of God's provision? How can you worship and serve Him with what He has given you?
- How do you respond to the promises of God in His word? Take some time this week to reflect on whether you respond with disbelief and doubt, entitlement and pride, or hopeful expectation and peace. Why do you think you respond this way?
- Why is God's provision abundant? Share one way you can be a blessing to others this week.

