GROUP QUESTIONS FOR **NOVEMBER 1**

Deuteronomy: God Puts Our Love to the Test

Deuteronomy 7:1-16 | Test of Devotion

Icebreakers!

1. What's something you've cut out of your life—and found great benefit from leaving?
2. When have you had to break off a friendship with someone who—at least at the time—was a negative influence on you?

Growing Together

3. **Study Deuteronomy 7:1-16 on the next page.** What are the key ideas of each of those three paragraphs? What connections do the colors draw out between phrases?
4. When people come to faith in Jesus and start living for Him, what habits and customs might we have to put to death? What new things could tempt us into sin?
5. **Read Matthew 5:29-30.** Why is Jesus so extreme with commands like these? What does it mean to take these warnings from Jesus seriously?
6. Why did God choose to save Israel? What's *not* a reason for Him choosing them? Then ask yourself: why did God choose to save YOU? What's *not* a reason He saved you?
7. How does God describe Himself? Why does He keep telling Israel what He's like and reminding them of what He's done?
8. What blessings does God promise to those who guard and carry out His rules? Why did God think it was important to explain these blessings to His people? Why should we think about God's blessings specifically on those who hear, keep, and do His will?
9. **From the message this Sunday: What questions do you have? What encouraged you? What challenged you? Where did you see the Gospel?**

Head, Heart, and Hands

10. What snares have you been ignoring, downplaying, or rationalizing instead of putting those temptations to death?
11. What blessings from God would you enjoy if you committed to live a holy life for Him?
12. What do you need to put an end to so that you can live fully for God, clear of the traps the devil is setting for you?

    How will you make that needed change?

    When?

Deuteronomy 7:1-16

When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than you, and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must devote them to complete destruction. You shall make no covenant with them and show no mercy to them. You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, **for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods**. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and chop down their Asherim and burn their carved images with fire.

"**For you are a people holy to the LORD your God**. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for **his treasured possession**, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. *It was not because you were more in number* than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for *you were the fewest of all peoples,* but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face. **You shall therefore be careful to do the commandment and the statutes and the rules that I command you today.**

"And because you listen to these rules and keep and do them, the LORD your God will keep with you the covenant and the steadfast love that he swore to your fathers. He will love you, bless you, and multiply you. He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you. You shall be blessed above all peoples. There shall not be male or female barren among you or among your livestock. And the LORD will take away from you all sickness, and none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which you knew, will he inflict on you, but he will lay them on all who hate you. And you shall consume all the peoples that the LORD your God will give over to you. Your eye shall not pity them, **neither shall you serve their gods, for that would be a snare to you.**