



Discussion Guide - January 19, 2025

Resolved.

*Love God—Multiply Disciples Through
Biblical Worship*

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

How to Prepare

Begin preparing by reading the full passage a few times. Then answer the questions for yourself. Then think about how your Small Group might answer them. Try re-wording the questions to fit you and your Small Group. Don't feel tied down to the discussion guide, just be sure to discuss the main point of the text in your conversations.

Resources-

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/what-is-worship>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Lord-is-One.html>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/love-god-with-your-everything>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/feel-love-for-God.html>

Sermon Outline:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

1. Worship God Exclusively. V4
2. Worship God Entirely. V5
3. Worship God Internally. V6
4. Worship God Externally. Vv7a, 8-9
5. Worship God Extensively. V7b

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Obey God and Prosper

- 4 "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our
God, the Lord is one!
- 5 You shall love the Lord your
God with all your heart and
with all your soul and with all
your might.
- 6 These words, which I am
commanding you today, shall
be on your heart.
- 7 You shall teach them diligently to
your sons and shall talk of
them when you sit in your
house and when you walk by
the way and when you lie
down and when you rise up.
- 8 You shall bind them as a sign on
your hand and they shall be
as frontals on your forehead.
- 9 You shall write them on the
doorposts of your house and
on your gates.

Discussion Questions

Ask a volunteer to read Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

INTRODUCTION

Here is a question or two to help introduce the topic and jump-start discussion.

1. How do our words display what we value, and what are some topics you tend to talk about?

UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION

These questions should help your Small Group dig deeper into the text and then apply it to your lives today.

I. Worship God Exclusively. V4

2. How was this charge to worship only Yahweh (The LORD) so different from the cultures and customs surrounding Israel? How is it different from the customs and cultures of the world around us today?

3. Why do we worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit if there is only one God? What is the exclusive way that we can have a relationship with God and be able to worship Him?

(We worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit because God (Yahweh- the LORD) is one being existing eternally as three persons: Father, Son, and Spirit. This mystery of the Trinity is marvelous and still true. He simply is one being in three persons. One God, three co-equal, co-eternal persons. So yeah... He deserves to be worshiped! But the only way to be in a relationship with Him is to put your faith in Jesus, the Son - John 14:6)

II. Worship God Entirely. V5

4. What is the basic point of verse 5? What nuances do the words "all," "heart," "soul," and "might" draw out of the basic point of the verse?

5. Is it possible to love God perfectly in this life? On the other hand, what does it mean about your relationship with God if you don't have love for Jesus in your life?



III. Worship God Internally. V6

6. How do the affections of our hearts shape how we worship God? Are we truly worshipping God if we do not have love for Him in our hearts?

7. According to V6 and various other texts of scripture, how do we transform the affections of our hearts so that love for God grows in our hearts?

(The Word of God is the instrument that God uses to renew our hearts and minds - Romans 12:2, Psalm 119:11. It is as we read, meditate on, and memorize scripture that our hearts are transformed and love for God grows. Love for God fades when the light of His Word is not shining on our hearts.)

IV. Worship God Externally. Vv7a, 8-9

8. What is the main principle that we find in Vv7a, 8-9? What does it look like for the love of God to be visible and verbal in our lives?

9. How does loving God internally make loving God externally pretty simple? What do we need to do to be intentional about loving God externally?

(We need to think about the people closest to us and the people that we see on a regular basis. Then we need to pray and purpose to be unashamed about our love of Christ when we talk to those people and others we encounter in our lives.)

V. Worship God Extensively. V7b

10. What does the language of "sit/walk," "lie down/rise up" indicate about when, where, and how often we are to be thinking about and talking about God?

11. What are some ways that you try to worship God extensively?

Commentary (from ESV Study Bible)

Deut. 6:1–25 The Greatest Commandment. These verses contain one of the great commandments, namely, to love God with all of one's power (v. 5), which follows the famous statement of the uniqueness of God (v. 4). The section comprises general exhortations to obey and warnings not to disobey.

Deut. 6:4 Hear, O Israel. This verse is called the Shema from the Hebrew word for "Hear." The LORD our God, the LORD is one (see ESV footnote). The Lord alone is Israel's God, "the only one." It is a statement of exclusivity, not of the internal unity of God. This point arises from the argument of ch. 4 and the first commandment. While Deuteronomy does not argue theoretically for monotheism, it requires Israel to observe a practical monotheism (cf. 4:35). This stands in sharp contrast to the polytheistic Canaanites.

Deut. 6:5 love. See 4:37. all. That the Lord alone is Israel's God leads to the demand for Israel's exclusive and total devotion to him. heart ... soul ... might. All Israelites in their total being are to love the Lord; "this is the great and first commandment" (Matt. 22:38). In Matt. 22:37, Mark 12:30, and Luke 10:27, Jesus also includes "mind." In early Hebrew, "heart" included what we call the "mind". "Might" indicates energy and ability.

Deut. 6:6 on your heart. Cf. 4:39. The demand is for a heart that totally loves the Lord. Deuteronomy anticipates the new covenant, when God's words will be truly and effectively written on the heart (Jer. 31:31–34; also Deut. 30:6–8).

Deut. 6:7–9 The two pairs of opposites (sit/walk, lie down/rise) suggest any and every time, place, and activity. bind them ... write them. Many Jews have fulfilled these commands literally with phylacteries (v. 8) and mezuzot (v. 9), i.e., boxes bound on the arm and forehead or attached to doorposts containing vv. 4–5 and other Scripture verses. See also 11:18–20.