

Study Guide for Oct. 19th, 2003. Series: Such Good Lives. Deut. 4:1-14 Our God is Near!

Introduction: Describe a time you were **close** to someone you admired. What did you gain from that experience? What memories do you have of your time spent with that person?

I. The WORD is our GUIDE. (Deut. 4:1-2)

- A. Describe the intent of Moses as he addresses Israel with the command, “**Hear now!**” (see also Deut. 5:1, 6:3-4, 9:1 and 20:3)
- B. What will be the result for Israel if they into faithfully practice Moses’ exhortation?
- C. Moses instructs Israel to neither **add to** nor **subtract from** the Lord’s commands. Look up the following references (Deut. 12:32, Prov. 30:5-6 and Rev. 22:18-19). Apply that command to us.

II. The PAST provides a WARNING. (Deut. 4:3-4)

- A. What happened at Baal Peor? (fill in the blanks) “The Lord your God _____ from among you _____ who followed the Baal of Peor, but all of you who _____ to the Lord your God are _____ today.”
- B. Read Numb. 25:1-9 for the initial report of this incident. What strikes you from this account?
- C. Read I Cor. 10:1-13. How have you been **warned** by the examples in the Bible? Be specific.

III. EDUCATION plus APPLICATION leads to DEMONSTRATION. (Deut. 4:5-8)

- A. Identify words or phrases Moses uses which indicate **content** or **knowledge** of God’s will.
- B. Identify words or phrases Moses uses which indicate the **necessity** of **obedience** to God’s will.
- C. Express your understanding of the relationship between **knowing** and **doing** the will of God. What, according to Moses, will be the result of Israel **knowing** and **doing** the will of God?
- D. James 1:22 says, “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” Where are you living up to the knowledge you have of God’s will? Where are you not?

IV. REMEMBER and then TEACH the next GENERATION. (Deut. 4:9-14)

- A. Moses calls the Israelites to **remember** the day they stood before God at Horeb. What, exactly, were they supposed to take from that experience?
- B. How did Israel encounter God that day? How is that different from how we encounter God? (see II Tim. 3:15-16 and II Pet. 1:19-21)
- C. What were the Israelites to teach their children? What attitude should they have toward God?
- D. Complete this phrase, “Forgetfulness opens the door to failure, but” to summarize what you sense as the primary lesson from this text of Holy Scripture.