

Comprehensive, Exclusive and Whole-Hearted Obedience

In Deuteronomy 6, Moses expresses the essence of the nation's covenant relationship with God. In light of who God is and what He had done for Israel, they were to walk in a comprehensive, exclusive and whole-hearted obedience to God. God seeks from us the same kind of obedience. It is the only fitting way to live in light of who God is and what He has done for us. As we look at Deuteronomy 6, consider your own life. Is it an expression of the kind of obedience that God seeks? Is it comprehensive? Is it exclusive? Is it whole-hearted?

Opening Discussion: Are there any companies (i.e. Coca Cola, Apple, Ford, etc.) to whom you have a sense of exclusive loyalty?

Read Deuteronomy 6

1. What is significant for the nation about affirming that the Lord is "our God" and that their God is the one true God (v. 4)?
2. What is Moses asking from the children of Israel when he says that they must love God with all their heart, all their soul and all their might (v. 5)?
3. Is it possible to give God comprehensive and exclusive obedience without love? Why or why not?
4. Moses commands that God's words must be on one's heart and then passed on to future generations (v. 6)? What does it mean to have God's words on your heart? How do we do that?
5. What are the benefits of obedience that Moses communicates in this chapter?

6. Read Romans 12:1-2. How are Paul's words to the Romans similar to Moses' words to the children of Israel in Deut. 6?
7. As you think about comprehensive obedience, are there any areas that you tend to hold back from God at times? If so, what are they? And why?
8. Brian mentioned three challenges to obedience that Moses warned the nation about: affluence (vv. 10-12), false gods (vv. 14-15) and difficulties (v. 16). In what ways have you experienced any of these challenges?
9. What do you sense is the main thing God is saying to you out of Deut. 6?