

Closing Prayer

Close with prayer for the spiritual needs of your family, your spiritual family, and people everywhere.



Connection Group Study Guide

For the week of August 04 – August 10

Deuteronomy 24:17-22

BIBLE STORIES

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS – LOVE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Opening Prayer

Introduction

What is the most in need that you have ever been?

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK IS TO...

- Memorize Luke 10:27-28.
- Pray to God for strength and guidance to be a loving neighbor to those around me.
- Identify someone in need and reflect Christ's love through my interactions with them.

Into the Bible

Read Deuteronomy 24:17-22

What three groups of people does Moses address in v. 17? Do these groups still exist in our society and culture today? Are they the same?

What is God's point in v. 18? How would this verse look differently if God were speaking it directly to us today?

Vv. 19 – 21 seem to be saying the same thing over and over again. What is repeated in these verses? What is different? What's the point?

In vv. 19-22 what is the same about the reasoning God gives for His commands as in v. 18? What is different?

Evaluate the following statement: *"While many of us may never own our own grain field, or have to scour farmland for our next meal, we can all benefit from the perspective on the world this passage asks us to have. We must first remember who we are and who called us; that is to say, we must not forget our story of redemption because that is the story that drives our ethics. Once we understand who we are, we must understand those around us. This is a call to not only acknowledge the marginalized, but to embrace them as we should now see ourselves in their plight. Finally, we must never assume that things we possess belong to us. They belong to YHWH and he has required we use those resources for the good of all people. Deuteronomy 24:17-22 is not primarily about agriculture – it is about being a covenant people. The message it provides is applicable across all generations."*

Connecting

Read Romans 9:12-21

How does this passage tie in with this week's sermon text?

Read Luke 10:25-37

Same question.

If we were to rate our "love of neighbors" on a scale of one to ten, how would we measure? What are three or four things we could do to increase our love for others over the course of this week?

What is the source of our love for other people? With that in mind what are three or four more things we can do this week to bolster our love for others?