

Joshua 8:30-35 New Living Translation

30 Then Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal. **31** He followed the commands that Moses the LORD's servant had written in the Book of Instruction: "Make me an altar from stones that are uncut and have not been shaped with iron tools." Then on the altar they presented burnt offerings and peace offerings to the LORD. **32** And as the Israelites watched, Joshua copied onto the stones of the altar the instructions Moses had given them.

33 Then all the Israelites—foreigners and native-born alike—along with the elders, officers, and judges, were divided into two groups. One group stood in front of Mount Gerizim, the other in front of Mount Ebal. Each group faced the other, and between them stood the Levitical priests carrying the Ark of the LORD's Covenant. This was all done according to the commands that Moses, the servant of the LORD, had previously given for blessing the people of Israel.

34 Joshua then read to them all the blessings and curses Moses had written in the Book of Instruction. **35** Every word of every command that Moses had ever given was read to the entire assembly of Israel, including the women and children and the foreigners who lived among them.

Discussion/Journal Questions

What are some of the promises God makes to His people in scripture? Which ones are the most meaningful to you personally? Why?

Read Joshua 8:30-35 and Genesis 12:6. Reflect on how the people of Israel might have felt waiting 500 years for God's promise to be fulfilled.

Where do you struggle the most with wanting "instant gratification"? In what settings do you quickly lose patience?

Read 2 Peter 3:8-9. How does Peter explain God's patience?

Joshua 8:34 says that Joshua read to the people all the blessings and the curses of the Law. Honesty time! What is your reaction to accounts in scripture of God's judgment?

Read Galatians 3:13 and 4:4. What does Galatians say about both God's timing and God's response to the curses of the Law?

Even though the people of Israel failed to keep God's covenant in the land, God was faithful to send Jesus and through Jesus fulfill all His promises.

In what areas of your life do you need hope today? How can your group pray for you and encourage you this week?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?