

## SEQUOIA NOTES

### Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...



#### Choose Life

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor  
November 28, 2021

#### Choices are the steering wheel of life.

***“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” A.W. Tozer***

Deuteronomy 30:11-14 (NLT) “This command I am giving you today is not too difficult for you, and it is not beyond your reach. <sup>12</sup> It is not kept in heaven, so distant that you must ask, ‘Who will go up to heaven and bring it down so we can hear it and obey?’ <sup>13</sup> It is not kept beyond the sea, so far away that you must ask, ‘Who will cross the sea to bring it to us so we can hear it and obey?’ <sup>14</sup> No, the message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart so that you can obey it.

- **Obedience to God is possible.**

- **Obedience to God is beneficial.**

Deuteronomy 30:15-19 (NLT) “Now listen! Today I am giving you a choice between life and death, between prosperity and disaster. <sup>16</sup> For I command you this day to love the Lord your God and to keep his commands, decrees, and regulations by walking in his ways. If you do this, you will live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you and the land you are about to enter and occupy. <sup>17</sup> “But if your heart turns away and you refuse to listen, and if you are drawn away to serve and worship other gods, <sup>18</sup> then I warn you now that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live a long, good life in the land you are crossing the Jordan to occupy. <sup>19</sup> “Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make.

John 15:9-10 (NLT) “I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.”

#### Are you walking in obedience today?

**Is there something that God has revealed to you that you have not yet obeyed?**

**St. Augustine taught: Sin is primarily a disorder of love.**

<sup>17</sup> “But if your heart turns away and you refuse to listen, and if you are drawn away to serve and worship other gods, <sup>18</sup> then I warn you now that you will certainly be destroyed.

#### What do you love more than God today? What can you not live without?

Romans 10:6-13 (NLT) ...Faith’s way of getting right with God says, “Don’t say in your heart, ‘Who will go up to heaven?’ (to bring Christ down to earth). <sup>7</sup> And don’t say, ‘Who will go down to the place of the dead?’ (to bring Christ back to life again).” <sup>8</sup> In fact, it says, “The message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart.” And that message is the very message about faith that we preach: <sup>9</sup> If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. <sup>11</sup> As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” <sup>12</sup> Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

- **Obedience to God is personal.**

Deuteronomy 30:19b-20 (NLT) Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! <sup>20</sup> You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This is the key to your life. And if you love and obey the Lord, you will live long in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”

#### Choose Life by...

- **Loving God as a first priority.**
- **Obeying God in all your ways.**
- **Clinging to Christ forever.**

v. <sup>16</sup> “If you do this, you will live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you and the land you are about to enter and occupy.”

Romans 10:14-15

**Big Idea: Choose Life in Christ today & commit to share this Life with others.**

**Everything we do at Sequoia is to receive this Life and then extend this Life to others. This includes are Impact Communities & our Impact Centre vision.**

John 10:10b: “I came that you might have life in all its fullness.”



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we  
live out our identity as a  
**Family of Servants on Mission.**  
To get plugged in email:  
**impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org**

**Choose Life**  
**#1 of 1 - November 28, 2021**

- 1) Last week we looked at leading through vulnerability and weakness from 1 Timothy 1:12-17. Where did you see God working in your life in this regard this past week? How did your action step go?
- 2) Read Deuteronomy 30:11-20. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What's the theme of this chapter, or passage? What's the historical and cultural context?
- 3) **Observation:** What "jumps out" in this passage? What interesting details do you observe? Is anything repeated? What questions come up about the passage? Are there connecting words or ideas?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this passage for us and what does this tell us about living in Christ and for Christ? In what ways can our hearts be drawn away from God? What implications / promises do we see for those who want to follow Christ? What does it look like to choose life?
- 5) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through this passage? (Take some time for Listening Prayer). How does this passage call on you to change the way you live? What will you do this week as a result of this teaching? What aspect of this teaching do you need to pass on to others?



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