Intro...

Read Deuteronomy 6:10-25

Deuteronomy, meaning the second law, is the last in a volume of writings known as the Pentateuch. Moses authored the first five books of the Bible and his final installment was recorded when the children of Israel was positioned at the edge of the land God had promised. It was the eve of their emergence into the world as a political power. Deuteronomy contains the final words of a great leader who wanted nothing more than for a new generation of God’s people to reach their full potential. Moses was a dying and Joshua had been chosen to become his successor...it was now Joshua’s calling to lead the people to take possession of the land of promise. But at the age of 120, Moses wanted to address the people one final time...

TURN to BODY:

What would Moses say? What would this experienced prophet of God want to leave with his people?

I believe 6:12 & 8:11 contain Moses’ proposition statement for his final sermon in the wilderness...(ON SCREEN)
We remember what we ought to forget and forget what we ought to remember.

- Everybody forgets, some quicker than others, but sooner or later things just seem to fade away from the mind.
- It is said that some things become "buried" in the mind. Events, names, dates, places, old friends, promises and just about anything and everything sooner or later fades away.

Most of the time forgetting is not serious.
However, forgetting can get us in trouble. You forget your wedding anniversary for example, and you may be in serious trouble!

Transition...

But our biggest danger, Covenant, lies in forgetting the Lord. When are memory slips of our Creator and Redeemer, it indicates a serious spiritual problem. Moses, in the book of Deuteronomy, challenges his readers to never FORGET what God has DONE and what God has SAID!

(ON SCREEN)

1. Don’t forget what God has done. (10-12; 21-23)

Intro...

In 4:9, Moses says, “Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life.”

- It is not uncommon for us to forget the works of God...what God has done for us often slips from our hearts.
- Of the 146x the word “remember” is used in the Bible, 26 of them are in reference to recalling what God had done in the past.
- As long as a person thinks about the things of God, God will be remembered.
- Without realizing it, while in the midst of everyday living, the presence and faithfulness of God can become dulled and fade away.

Amplify...
Let me share with you how to keep God close to mind and heart:

(ON SCREEN)

1) Don’t focus on the gifts more than the Giver. (6:10-12)

Forgetting God Usually Happens in the Good Times of Life...

Reaping the blessings of God can cause a person to forget...the new generation who would enjoy God’s promise would be tempted to focus more on the goodness of the *land* than goodness of the *Lord*.

- Having all one needs met can cause a person to forget about God. When there is deep need in our lives, we tend to seek God and ask for His help. When God meets our need, it is easy to forget again.
- Success, money, fame, etc., can cause a person to turn his or her attention away from the Lord.

**Amplify...**

God’s people were standing on the edge of blessing and favor from God. But notice the emphasis of verses 10-11 from Moses...you are entering a land with great cities you did not build, houses full of good things you did not fill, vineyards you didn’t plant, wells that you did not dig and then Moses says, “Beware, when you are full, you better focus more on the GIVER more than the GIFTS.”

There is always a danger to worship the blessings and not the One who in His amazing grace has blessed us.
When our memory begins to fade of the GIVER, an attitude of self-sufficiency sets in.

- If we don’t pay careful consideration to the source of all things, an “I did it by myself” creeps into our psyche.
- We consider our success only as a personal accomplishment...All that God provided or did is forgotten.
- Who has not called upon God in the past, pleading for His assistance only to forget Him after He has answered and blessed us?
- After being thankful for a short time, the memory of what He did for us fades away...God’s goodness is often covered up by our own sense of accomplishment.
- We are guilty of allowing God’s grace and goodness to fade in time!

Not only are we to focus on the Giver...

(ON SCREEN)

2) Remember that God brought us out to bring us in (6:22-23)

God had redeemed His people...He had removed them out from a horrible pit...God saved them from slavery and misery...God lifted them out so He could lead them in...

- The same is true for us...God has brought us out of spiritual bondage to bring us into spiritual blessing.
- Like the children of Israel, we are never to forget both our REDEEMER and REDEMPTION!
Shame on us if we lose sight of what God has DONE for us...shame on you for forgetting the significance of the cross...shame on me for memory lapses of what Jesus did for me at Calvary.

Covenant, remembering God’s goodness and grace in our lives is something we can’t afford to FORGET!

(ON SCREEN)
Quote...
Remembering what God has done in the past is vital for living by faith in the future.

(ON SCREEN)
2. Don’t forget what God has said. (13-20; 24-25)

Intro...
The book of Deuteronomy is one of the most significant writings of the Old Testament. It underscores the importance of knowing and submitting to God’s Word. Moses compels the people in verse 17 to keep the commandments of the Lord, His testimonies and His statutes. There is an emphasis on choice in Deuteronomy...the people must choose to obey the Word of God or reject what God has said. In this book, they are told to “hear” 50x and “do,” “keep,” and “observe” 177x!!!

Amplify...
Moses warns the people not to turn from God’s Word! According to 6:25, he says, “success and righteousness are available if the Word of God is obeyed.” 

Moses knew of the vitality of what God has said...

(ON SCREEN)

Deuteronomy 8:3
“So he humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord.”

Jesus understood the importance of the Word...

When tempted by Satan in His wilderness (Matt 4), Jesus quoted this great book 3x! Man shall not live by bread alone but every word that proceeds from the mouth of God!

- This remains relevant even today...our spiritual success depends solely on how we respond to God’s Word.
- Do you realize that Psalm 119 mentions keeping God’s Word and obeying it 29x?

Apply...

We are under the authority of the Word of God because we are under the authority of the God who gave it. One day, every knee will bow in acknowledgement of God's supreme rule and reign over all. As followers of Christ, one way we show our submission to God is by our submission to His Word, not only by acknowledging its truthfulness, but by walking in obedience to the truth it teaches.
How LOYAL are we to God’s Word? Will an occasional glance into God's Word and a half-hearted attempt at living in obedience suffice for a life submitted to God? Certainly not! James says his hearers should "look into" the law of God, a word that gives the idea of "stooping down to get a close look." They are to look into the "perfect law, the law of liberty." God's law does not bring oppression, but true freedom, true liberty. Freedom under God's Word is not freedom to do what I want, but a freedom to do what I ought – having been set free from the bondage of sin (see Romans 6).

We must **approach** the Word of God as the supernatural, divinely inspired Word it is, live under its **authority** and **assimilate** it into all aspects of daily life.

**Deuteronomy 6:6-9 (ON SCREEN)**

> 6 “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.
> 7 “You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.
> 8 “You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.
> 9 “You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

**Quote...**

We must study the Word to know about God but we must obey the Word to really know God.

**David Platt...**

“If we want to know the glory of God, if we want to experience the beauty of God, and if we want to be used by the hand of God, then we must live in the word of God.”
Conclusion...

It is so easy to forget. One doesn't have to do a thing, it just happens to everyone. To forget the blessings of God can be caused by many things, but almost always in the end it is the result of feeling that we don’t need God!

May we never forget the statement from Moses in Deuteronomy 7:21, “...for the Lord your God, the great and awesome God, is among you.”

Every Christian should live in the awareness that we have been brought from death to life through Christ by a GREAT and AWESOME GOD. We are alive in Him. I don’t know what you are going through, but if you are a follower of Christ you are going THROUGH – you are not going to stop where you are.

How many here today need to remember the GOODNESS and GRACE of God?