



MOSES Díes
Deuteronomy 34

MEMORY VERSE

Deuteronomy 34:10

“But since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,”

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

Small cardboard tablets (to represent the Ten Commandments), a stick (representing Moses' staff) and a pair of sandals (to represent Moses at the burning bush).

ATTENTION GRABBER!

Faithful Service

As you begin to teach, choose four or five students who would like to volunteer to serve you. Tell them to stand up and hold some things for you (it could be the trash can, ruler, your Bible). You can also be creative and come up with some “strange” requests but don't tell them why you are asking them to do this.

At some later point in the lesson, use this as an illustration. The children who were the servants did the request no matter how strange it seemed. We are called to be faithful to everything that the Lord asks us to do, even if it seems strange to us. As we will see in our final lesson on Moses, he was a faithful servant to the end. We will review his life in today's lesson and see how he spent his life faithfully serving the Lord. **God desires us to be faithful servants.**

LESSON TIME!

In this last chapter of Deuteronomy, we see how Moses finished his life. Warren Wiersbe said, "When your time comes to die, the important thing is not the grandeur of your funeral but the greatness of your life. In fact, how you live now will determine how you will die then."

Moses was a great man of God. He was also very faithful in what the Lord had given him to do. There has been a lot that we have been able to learn from his life over the past weeks. Let us see what we can learn and apply to our lives from this great man of God even in his death. **God desires us to be faithful servants.**

DEUTERONOMY 34:1-4

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is across from Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land of Gilead as far as Dan,

all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea,

the South, and the plain of the Valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar.

Then the LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to give Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have caused you to see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there."

Here we see Moses still obeying the Lord as the Lord tells him to go up to Mount Nebo. The Lord showed Moses all of the land that He would give to the children of Israel, as He had promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

God is always faithful to His promises. God showed the land to Moses as he promised. This was the goal that Moses had longed for, for many years; but Moses was only able to see God's fulfilled promise and not enter into it. Moses had earlier misrepresented God's heart to the people. This was the consequence of that sin; still, God in His mercy, took Moses alone to show him the land and remind him of Israel's future just before He went to be with the Lord. Even though we sin and suffer consequences because of it, God is still loving, kind, and merciful. **God desires us to be faithful servants.**

DEUTERONOMY 34:5-8

So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD.

And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but no one knows his grave to this day.

Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died. His eyes were not dim nor his natural vigor diminished.

And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. So the days of weeping and mourning for Moses ended.

One of the most precious things is said of Moses at the end of his life. Moses is not called the Pharaoh of Egypt as he could have been, but he is called, "the servant of the Lord." It is a privilege to be a servant of the Almighty God, and each and every one of us can choose to be a servant of the Lord.

In the book of Hebrews we are told, "Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season..."

(Hebrews 11:24-29) May it be said of each of us at our passing that we chose to serve the Lord rather than the things of this world.

We see that Moses, the servant of the Lord dies on the mountain. Moses spent many intimate times in the mountains with God, now he would end his life there, in fellowship and sharing with the Lord, His God and His best friend.

And this righteous man was buried by the Lord Himself. No one knows where he was buried, but it was somewhere in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor. This was the valley where the children of Israel camped while Moses gave them the instructions and blessing from God (Deuteronomy 5-33).

Moses was 120 years old when he died and his strength was still strong. The children of Israel mourned for thirty day for Moses. He was a great leader, a great man of God, and one who loved them greatly. He would be greatly missed by the people. **God desires us to be faithful servants.**

Simon Says

Play a short game of Simon Says. Use it to illustrate faithfulness to obey only what Simon said.

Moses was faithful to obey everything that the Lord asked him to do. God desires us to be faithful too.

DEUTERONOMY 34:9

Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; so the children of Israel heeded him, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Now we see Joshua coming to be the leader of the children of Israel. Joshua was also a faithful man who served the Lord and had been

trained by Moses for many years. God has a wonderful plan for each of our lives, but it may take a while to realize it. Joshua was an older man at this time, but had been prepared through many experiences with Moses for this important call on his life.

We also see an interesting picture of God's salvation in our story today. We see that Moses brought Israel to the borders of the land, but died and could not take them in himself. That shows us that the law made nothing perfect (Hebrews 7:19). It will bring us into a wilderness of conviction, but not into Canaan or rest and peace. Moses was an example of the law.

Joshua, (an example of Jesus) was to do for us that which "the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh" (Romans 8:3). God prepared Joshua for the task at hand for he was "full of the Spirit of wisdom."

In other words, we can never get to the place that God wants us to be by being a good person or by keeping all of the rules of the Bible or the law. We need to have a relationship with Jesus. Jesus provides for us the way to get to the place of His promises (the place of peace and rest, a picture of heaven) and that is only through trust in Him. We need to put our trust in Jesus and not rely on our good works to save us.

We see that Moses had laid hands on Joshua and knew that Joshua would take his place. The people recognized the authority was now upon Joshua for it tells us that they listened to him, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses. We see that it was God who gave Joshua the skill to lead the Israelites.

We can always know that whenever God calls us to do something for Him, He will always equip us to do the work.

DEUTERONOMY 34:10-12

But since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

in all the signs and wonders which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, before Pharaoh, before all his servants, and in all his land,

and by all that mighty power and all the great terror which Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

And now we see Moses praised for he was truly a righteous man. Moses had an intimacy with the Lord that no one else had. The Bible says of Moses, “whom the Lord knew face to face as a friend” (Exodus 33:11; Numbers 12:7, 8). May we have that same kind of relationship with the Lord today! **God desires us to be faithful servants.**

Moses was the one who God used to do miraculous signs, wonders and awesome deeds. He was used by God to deliver His law to His people, build the Tabernacle, lead the Israelites out of Egypt, and so much more. Yet, the greatest thing said of him was that he was the “friend of God.”

As great as a man as Moses was, we must remember also that God desires to use us in many small and great ways. We must be faithful to all God puts into our hands, and remember that we need that intimate time with our God, for we shall one day see Him face to face. **God desires us to be faithful servants.**

A Lifetime of Example

Bring some props that help indicate the ways Moses was faithful to God in his lifetime. For example: Bring in some small cardboard “tablets” with the Ten Commandments on them and have a child

stand and hold it up. Remind them that Moses faithfully went up the mountain and spent 40 days receiving the commandments from God.

Bring in a stick to represent a rod and have the children guess which acts of faithfulness it represents (dividing of the Red Sea, water from the rock, turning into a snake, etc.)

You can also bring in sandals that a child can place on the ground in front of him reminding the class of Moses' early faithfulness at the burning bush. Try to think of one or two others to illustrate faithfulness.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to faithfully serve the Lord all of their lives. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.