

I'm in the Lord's Army



Lesson 2

Choosing God

Theme: Faith — Choosing to follow God

Memory Verses

“Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.”

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday	Deuteronomy 29:1-13
Friday	Deuteronomy 29:14-21
Saturday	Deuteronomy 30:11-20
Monday	Deuteronomy 31:14-23
Tuesday	Deuteronomy 34:1-12

A covenant is an agreement between people about how they will act toward each other. For example, two people may agree to treat each other kindly. Or, one person may promise to protect another. A covenant works when all people involved do what they agree to do.

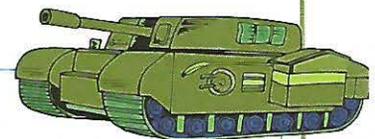
Entering a Covenant

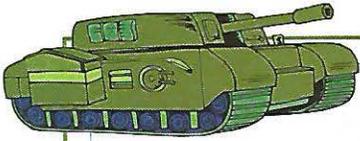
God entered a covenant with His people, the nation of Israel. In the covenant God said what He would do and what the people were to do. The covenant explained that God would be

Deuteronomy 29:1-13

Using a dictionary, and with the help of your parents, write down the meaning of the word *covenant*.

In His covenant with Israel, what did God promise to do for the people?





Deuteronomy 29:14-21

Did Moses think that all the people would always obey God?

If someone in Israel disobeyed God, what would happen?

God to His people; He would take care of them and give them what they needed. But remember, a covenant only works if everyone does what he agrees to do.

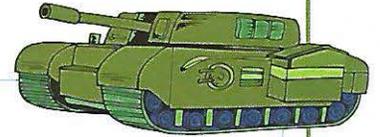
On the plains of Moab, before Israel entered Canaan, Moses explained to the people the covenant God made with them. Moses told the people how they were to live in the land as God's holy people. Moses taught and encouraged all the people to love God and keep His commandments.

Keeping the Covenant

If the people kept the covenant by doing what God commanded, blessings would follow; if they did not keep the covenant, curses would follow.

Blessings are great things God would give to His people. God would help all the people and their animals be safe and provide everything they needed. Who would want to pass up all this?

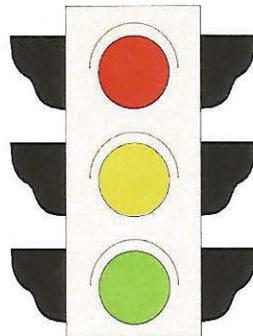
Curses are bad things God would use to punish His people. If people did not obey, everything God gave would be taken away. Life would be hard. People would suffer and be in need. Nobody would want all this to happen, but it would happen if the people did not keep the covenant with God.



Deuteronomy 30:11-20

If the people chose to enter into the covenant, what would they have to do?

I keep the covenants I make with others.

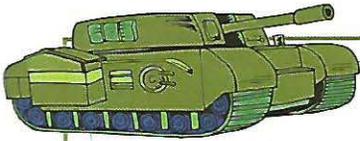


Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — rarely

Yellow — sometimes

Green — always



Deuteronomy 31:14-23

What did God know about His people even before they entered the Promised Land?

Everyone Must Keep the Covenant

Moses called on everyone in Israel to decide about keeping the covenant. Each person chooses either to obey or disobey God.

In order to encourage His people to enter the covenant, God instructed that a special ceremony be held once Israel entered Canaan. Half of the people were to stand on Mount Ebal and half on

Mount Gerizim (Deuteronomy 27:11-14). Those on Mount Gerizim were to announce the blessings, and those on Mount Ebal were to announce the curses. This ceremony provided a way for each person to enter the covenant and accept responsibility for keeping it.

Breaking the Covenant

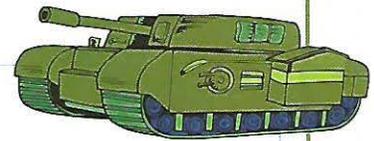
God knew His people would have a hard time keeping their covenant with Him. In fact, God knew that after awhile they would *not* keep the covenant. He would have to punish them and try to teach them to do better.

Even Moses one time broke his covenant with God. As a result, God did not allow Moses to go into the Promised Land. God showed Moses the land of Canaan from the top of a mountain, but he would not enter it (Deuteronomy 32:48-52). Moses died on Mount Nebo and God buried him in Moab. God expects His people to obey Him, and the consequences of disobeying are never good.

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

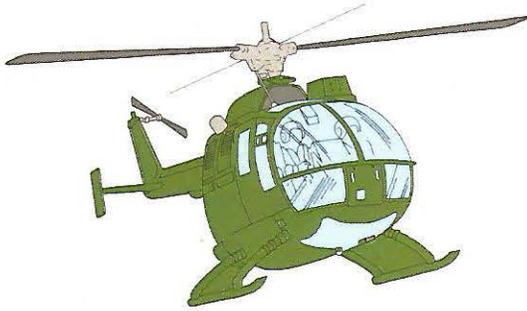
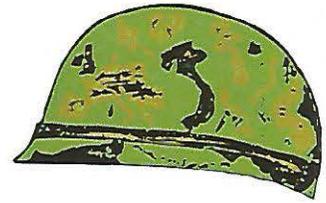
What did God show Moses from the top of a mountain?

Who buried Moses?



Think About It . . .

What are consequences? Think about something you did in the last few weeks that had good consequences. Think about something you did that had bad consequences. Write down a few notes so you can talk about your actions and their consequences in class.



Operation Bible Facts

How many books are in the New Testament?

Right here, right now, write from memory Genesis 1:1.

On a map inside the back cover, mark with a \diamond the Wilderness, Mount Nebo and Jericho.