



Group Guide

Message: Time to Move

January 5, 2025

This guide is designed to help you grow in your relationship with God and develop meaningful, lasting relationships with others. Get together with friends, or visit brookwoodchurch.org/groups to find a group that's already meeting. *Let's do life together!*

Connect

Suggestion: Give people a minute to think about this question before sharing it with the group.

What opportunity are you given every single day?

Pray

Draw your attention toward God and pray He will help you hear His voice personally during this week's study and discussion. Approach God with an open heart and ask Him to show you things in the Bible you've never seen before. Spend a few minutes quieting your heart and focusing on God in prayer.

Journal

Suggestion: Write down some notes in a special place as you begin the year. How is God leading you? What do you sense the future holds? What are you seeking from God? Use your journal or notebook to keep track of your conversations with God in the weeks and months to come.

Read

Deuteronomy 1:1-8 (NIV)

¹ These are the words Moses spoke to all Israel in the wilderness east of the Jordan—that is, in the Arabah—opposite Suph, between Paran and Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth and Dizahab. ² (It takes eleven days to go from Horeb to Kadesh Barnea by the Mount Seir road.)

³ *In the fortieth year, on the first day of the eleventh month, Moses proclaimed to the Israelites all that the LORD had commanded him concerning them.* ⁴ *This was after he had defeated Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, and at Edrei had defeated Og king of Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth.*

⁵ *East of the Jordan in the territory of Moab, Moses began to expound this law, saying:*

⁶ *The LORD our God said to us at Horeb, “You have stayed long enough at this mountain.* ⁷ *Break camp and advance into the hill country of the Amorites; go to all the neighboring peoples in the Arabah, in the mountains, in the western foothills, in the Negev and along the coast, to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon, as far as the great river, the Euphrates.* ⁸ *See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of the land the LORD swore he would give to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—and to their descendants after them.”*

Explore and Discuss

Insight: The cities and regions mentioned in vs. 1-3 provide geographic context for when and where the story is taking place. This would be like telling your family that Greenville is just south of Charlotte and northeast of Atlanta. This would give them a better idea of when and where a particular story fits into your life.

1. Israel was camped on the plains of Moab, able to see across the Jordan River into the Promised Land. This was the land of Canaan that God promised them but which they had not occupied for 400 years. What do you think it would have been like for them to finally see what, up to that point, they could have only imagined?
2. Have you ever found yourself in the wilderness (valley, wandering, lost) and wondered if you could ever get out? Describe the situation and share what that was like for you.
3. God told the Israelites they had stayed on the mountain long enough (vs. 6).
 - a. Can you name *your mountain* (an area/place/relationship) where maybe you’ve stayed too long?
 - b. How can you tell it’s time to move?
 - c. What keeps you from moving on or moving forward?
 - d. What will happen if you stay where you are?
 - e. How easy is it for you to believe God has something better for you? Why is that?

4. Describe a time you took a step of faith, and God surprised you with the result.
5. God told Israel to *break camp*. This meant they were going to have to leave the area that had become home to them. Has God ever asked you to leave something behind in order to have (or experience) something greater? Explain.
6. The foothills and mountains would have been very difficult to cross. Not only that, but the Amorites were Israel's enemies, and would have done everything they could to prevent God's people from advancing. What challenges will you face (or what battles will you fight) as you move forward in an area of life this year?
7. God was directing the Israelites to move into unknown territory. God often asks us to do the same. As you think about moving forward in a particular area of life, what excites you? What fears rise to the surface?
8. God promised the Israelites He had given them the land before they even got there. How would this promise have helped them move forward?
9. What does this promise tell you about the heart of God?
10. Why is it significant that the writer includes the names *Abraham, Isaac and Jacob*? What impact would that have had on the people as they headed toward Canaan?

Make a Move

What's one step God is leading you to take this week?

Memorize

One of the best ways to hear God throughout the day is to store up His words in your heart and mind.

Based on this week's theme, commit these words of Scripture to memory:

"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland."

Isaiah 43:19 (NLT)