

Not Alone: God's Relentless Pursuit

Weekly Devotionals | May 10

Introduction

As our church walks through the Old Testament together, noticing how God did not leave His people alone then—and does not leave us alone, now—we invite you to spend time digging a little deeper. Each week during this series we will provide Old Testament passages that connect to the focus of the past Sunday's message and allow you to explore the people, places, and events further.

As you read these passages, you will be guided to reflect on four aspects of the text, using the acronym L.I.F.E.

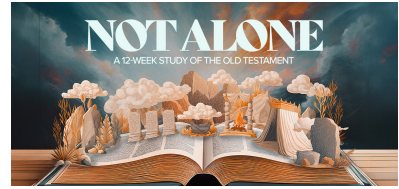
- L:** Literal – What is actually happening in the text? Who are the people? Where are the places? Who is doing what to whom and why?
- I:** Incarnational – How does this text point to Jesus? Where do we see our need for Him, a promise of His coming, or a symbol (“type”) of His role or function?
- F:** Formational – What does this text call us to do? Is there a command to obey? A principle to apply? A way of responding to God?
- E:** Eternal – How do these passages point us to our ultimate future reality? How does this text gain significance and meaning in light of “the end of the story” that was unknown to the readers at the time, but that we've been given a glimpse of?

Reading: God Provides for His People

Here's the reading for this week. If you read five days this week, you will need to average just under 3 ½ chapters a day. Or experience them during three “sessions” and read all the chapters listed next to each section at once. They are designed to be grouped together as listed.

Leviticus 16 & 19: God's instructions for a holy people

Numbers 13–14: God's response to rebellion



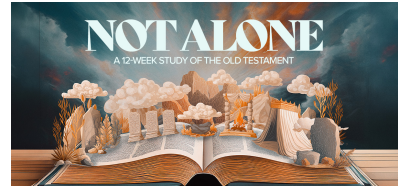
Deuteronomy 4–6, 8, 30, 34: God’s reminders to the next generation

As you read, look for examples of answer to any of the L.I.F.E questions and make note of them in this guide or in your Bible.

L.I.F.E Notes on Leviticus 16 & 19:

L.I.F.E Notes on Numbers 13–14:

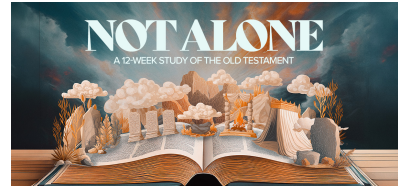
L.I.F.E Notes on Deuteronomy 4–6, 8, 30, 34:



As you complete your reading for this week, look back on the reading as a whole and reflect on the following questions.

- **Literal:** This week's reading contains a combination of laws (Leviticus 16 & 19) narratives (Numbers 13–14, Deuteronomy 34), and sermon (Deuteronomy 4–6, 8). The people who God rescued from slavery have seen His power and now they learn about His character and the relationship He wants to have with them. What moments and details stood out to you? Caused you to pause? Did anything confuse you?

- **Incarnational:** Where do you see God making it clear that His justice demands a consequence for sin? What passages point to the human tendency to rebel and need rescue? How does God hold in tension His deep love for His people and His judgment of sin? How do these moments deepen your appreciation of our need for a savior?



- **Formational:** Deuteronomy 4:5-14 paints a powerful picture of how our knowledge and teaching of God's laws forms us (and the next generation). Read those verses again. Reflect below on how God's commandments don't just give you *expectations*, they give you *wisdom* that can guide your life. (For more on this, see this Bible Project video [The Ten Commandments as Wisdom](#).)

- **Eternal:** As God's people come to the edge of the Promised Land, what parallels do you see between their experience in the wilderness and your experiences living as a follower of Christ in an imperfect world awaiting the New Heaven and New Earth?

L.I.F.E. Insight

Prayerfully consider one thing that has stood out to you from this week's reading. Why might God be calling your attention to it? How is He inviting you to respond? Consider praying what you've noticed in the space below.