

ROOTS OF FAITHFULNESS

Deuteronomy 6:10–25 (ESV)

¹⁰ “And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, ¹¹ and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, ¹² then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ¹³ It is the Lord your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. ¹⁴ You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you— ¹⁵ for the Lord your God in your midst is a jealous God—lest the anger of the Lord your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.

¹⁶ “You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. ¹⁷ You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you. ¹⁸ And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may go well with you, and that you may go in and take possession of the good land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers ¹⁹ by thrusting out all your enemies from before you, as the Lord has promised.

²⁰ “When your son asks you in time to come, ‘What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the Lord our God has commanded you?’ ²¹ then you shall say to your son, ‘We were Pharaoh’s slaves in Egypt. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²² And the Lord showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes. ²³ And he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land that he swore to give to our fathers. ²⁴ And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as we are this day. ²⁵ And it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to do all this commandment before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us.’”

INTRODUCTION:

We often forget gifts freely given — whether a Christmas present tucked away or blessings from God that we take for granted. *Deuteronomy 6* reminds us that Israel’s inheritance was not earned but given by God in His covenant faithfulness. The danger was not scarcity but abundance. And when abundance fills our lives, the temptation is to grow careless, and forgetfulness quietly slips in. Forgetfulness leads to pride and idolatry, but remembering anchors us in His saving acts. Let us reflect on the three roots of faithfulness: **Remember, Remain, Reveal.**

DISCUSS:

1. Remember (Deuteronomy 6:10–12)

Deuteronomy 6:10–12 cautions Israel that when they step into cities already built and enjoy vineyards already planted, they must not lose sight of the Lord who gave them these blessings. The real test was not in times of lack, but in seasons of plenty; and when gratitude fades, forgetfulness quietly takes root, opening the door to pride and misplaced devotion.

Jesus continues this call in Luke 22:19: “Do this in remembrance of me.” We remember His saving work, not just mentally, but by renewing covenant loyalty through worship and gratitude. Remembering anchors our identity in His grace.

In what ways can you intentionally remember God’s goodness daily, so that gratitude shapes your identity and worship?

2. Remain (Deuteronomy 6:13–19)

Israel was called to remain faithful by fearing, serving, and obeying the Lord, resisting the pull of surrounding gods. At Massah (Exodus 17), they tested God’s presence by grumbling, “Is the Lord among us or not?” Though God graciously provided water, their testing revealed distrust. Remaining faithful means trusting God’s character and obeying His commands even when alternatives seem easier.

Jesus deepens this in John 15:4–5: “Abide in me, and I in you... apart from me you can do nothing.” Remaining faithful is abiding in Christ, drawing life from Him like branches from the vine. Just as Israel was called to trust God in the wilderness, we are called to remain rooted in Christ in seasons of dryness or distraction.

How do you stay anchored in Christ when life feels dry or when easier alternatives tempt you?

3. Reveal (Deuteronomy 6:20-25)

Israel's faith was never meant to be private. It had to be revealed openly, especially to the next generation, through testimony and teaching. Moses instructed parents to answer their children's questions by retelling God's saving acts: "We were Pharaoh's slaves, and the Lord brought us out." Revealing faith is both verbal and visible, living out obedience before others.

Jesus echoes this in Matthew 5:14–16: "You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others." Faith revealed through words and deeds becomes a living testimony that points others to God's glory. When the story is spoken and embodied, faith is passed on, strengthened, and made credible in the eyes of those who hear and see it.

How can your life and words reveal God's story to those around you — family, colleagues, or neighbours — in a way that points them to Him?

Pray:

1. Remember:

Lord, help us never forget Your goodness and deliverance. Anchor our hearts in gratitude and worship, so that our lives continually testify to Your saving acts. May our memory of Your faithfulness guard us against pride and idolatry.

2. Remain:

Lord, keep us abiding in You. Strengthen our faith to obey and trust even when life feels uncertain or dry. Let Your Spirit sustain us, so that our roots go deep and we bear fruit that endures.

3. Reveal:

Lord, make us light in the world. May our testimony and obedience reveal Your story to others, drawing them to Your love. Empower us to speak and live boldly, so that Your glory is seen through us.