



# Thru the Bible in 2012

*The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God endures forever. Isaiah 40:8*

## Ladies for Jesus Thursday Bible Study Lesson

Readings for May 11, 2012 – May 17, 2012

Class Discussion: Thursday, May 17, 2012

### Focusing on God calls for us to Remember and Obey

#### **The Driving Force in our Lives (Deuteronomy 5:7)**

It is important that we realize whatever we primarily focus on becomes the driving force in our lives. This is why it is so important that the commandment, “*You must not have any other god but me,*” is observed in our lives because it is what drives us to obey all of God’s commands.

Recalling what we have read so far about the Israelites, what would you say are ways that they have broken this commandment?

In what ways do we break this commandment today?

Oswald Chambers stated:

Authority means a rule to which the worker is bound in loyalty. It is not sufficient to say “Because Jesus Christ says so, therefore you must obey,” unless we are talking to people who know Who Jesus Christ is. Authority must be of a moral, not a superstitious character. . . .

Authority in our lives is whatever we use as a driving force in our lives. Some people literally worship other gods by joining cults or strange religions. In a more subtle way, many of us worship other gods by building our lives around something other than the one true God. In doing so we water down the authority He has in our lives. If your greatest desire is for popularity, power, money, or anything other than the one true God then you are breaking this commandment. In doing so, you allow this greater desire to be the authority in your life. To put God first you must . . .

1. recognize what is taking His place in your life;
2. renounce this substitute god as unworthy of your devotion;
3. ask God for forgiveness;
4. restructure your priorities so that love for God is the motive for everything you do;
5. examine yourself daily to be sure you are giving God first place.

What in your life have you been placing before God  
and, therefore, allowing it to have authority over you?

**A Call to Remember and Obey (Deuteronomy 8)**

In the book of Deuteronomy, Moses and the new generation (plus Joshua and Caleb) are camped east of the Jordan River in the land of Moab. Just before the people crossed over the river into the Promised Land, Moses delivered an inspirational speech indicating the history of Israel, how God was with them and how they should live. In chapter 8, he calls for them to remember and obey God. “*So obey the commands of the Lord your God by walking in His ways and fearing Him.*” (Deuteronomy 8:6 NLT) Looking at these verses in chapter 8 of Deuteronomy today brings us to the question of “How do we obey?” We obey God by submitting to Him . . .

Our Heart:

Our Will:

Our Mind:

Our Body:

Our Finances:

Our Future:

Do you take a detail look at your obedience to God to see if you are pleasing Him?

One Scripture that is good for praying in this regards is Psalm 139:23-24:

*<sup>23</sup> Search me, God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.*

*<sup>24</sup> See if there is any offensive way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.*

(Psalm 139:23-24 NIV)