


SERMON STUDY GUIDE

BREAK CAMP



"Break Camp and Advance" | February 2, 2025

Scripture Passages: Deuteronomy 1:1-9, John 5:5-9

Intro

Have you ever found yourself stuck in a cycle, circling the same struggles, unable to move forward? What was that time like for you? How did you get out of it?

Like the Israelites who remained at Horeb too long, God calls us to break camp and advance.

Study and reflection

Deuteronomy 1:6-8 (NIV): The Lord our God said to us at Horeb, "You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Break camp and advance..."

For years, the Israelites had been healing and recovering from hardship, much like we have. They had seen God's faithfulness, but He called them to move forward.

What Keeps Us from Advancing?

1. Comfort
 - o The Israelites were no longer slaves. They had food and safety, but God had more for them.
 - o To break camp, you must pull up tent pegs, leave behind the familiar, and embrace discomfort.
2. Fear
 - o Fear of the unknown, fear of enemies ahead, fear of failure—these kept the Israelites stagnant.
 - o Following God into the unknown is safer than staying behind without Him.
3. Success of the Past
 - o The Israelites had seen God's provision—manna from heaven, the law at Sinai—but they couldn't live in past victories.
 - o A.W. Tozer: *A rut is just a grave with both ends kicked out.*

Is there a mountain you have been circling long enough?

- Are you stuck in routine faith, afraid to take the next step?
- How do you know you're stuck? What does that season of life look like for you?
- Have you been avoiding sharing your faith, trusting God with your future, or stepping into a new calling?

Application

God's promise was clear: "See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of it." (Deuteronomy 1:8)

- Our mission field is the geography of the heart.
- People around us are longing for hope, caught in cycles of addiction, failure, and shame.
- What is "the land" in your life? Where or what is God calling you into? What does it look like for you to go into the land?

Two Things Needed to Experience God's Future:

1. His Faithfulness
 - o God has already ensured victory, but we must step forward in faith.
2. Our Obedience
 - o The Israelites' journey should have been 11 days, but unbelief made it a 38-year delay.
 - o In John 5, Jesus asks the lame man, "Do you want to be made well?" The man had been stuck for 38 years, but Jesus told him to "Rise, take up your bed and walk."

Do You Want to Be Made Well?

- Jesus has already done the part only He can do.
- Healing and breakthrough require belief, action, and surrender.

Reflection and Prayer

- What is God asking you to move forward in?
- Where do you need to break camp and advance?
- What would keep you from being "made well?" How can you give those things up to God?
- Who can you invite to experience this journey with you?

Let's pray for courage, faith, and a willingness to step into the future God has for us.

Resources for Further Study:

- *Experiencing God* by Henry Blackaby
- *The Land Between* by Jeff Manion
- *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction* by Eugene Peterson