THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CELEBRATIONS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

DEUTERONOMY 16

1	Deuteronomy 16 teaches us that we should establish regular rhythms of celebrating who God is and what he's done in our lives. What was the last event you celebrated? As far as you're concerned are celebrations typically a "have to" or a "get to" and why?
	What does Deuteronomy 16 tell us about God and his relationship with humankind that he wants us to spend significant and regular time in celebration?
	What are some ways you specifically celebrate God for who he is and what he's done?
	What steps can we take so that our celebrations remain "get to's" instead of "have to's"?
	♥ What can we do to make sure our regular rhythms of celebration center on recognizing who God is and what he's done in our lives?
2	Why did God instruct Israel to celebrate Passover (and the associated Feast of Unleavened Bread)? Why do you think God gave such specific instructions about what that celebration should and should not entail?
	How do you think adhering to these instructions would aid in the worship of God?
	What are some of the regular rhythms of celebratory worship we practice today, and what role does adhering to specific instructions play in those celebrations?

3	The Feast of Weeks later came to be more commonly called the Feast of Pentecost (celebrated as a public holiday in Israel on Monday May 17, 2021). What significant event happened in biblical history during the Feast of Pentecost?
	How can Pentecost be a worthy celebration for Christians today?
	What did God want his people to remember through the festivals of Weeks and Booths described in Deuteronomy 16?
	♥ In light of the length of these celebrations, what temptations might God's people have had in setting aside so much time for them?
	♥ In what ways can we be tempted in similar ways when we think about celebrating God's faithfulness and character today?
4	According to Deuteronomy 16:16-17, who determined the amount that would be given at these feasts? How much, or what, was each person to bring?
	How can we grow in listening for God's prompting, seeking to understand his heart, and responding to his grace in our giving?
	Prayer Points > Pray that God would help you remember the multiplied ways he has brought deliverance in your life.

- > Confess to God how you've forgotten his works and neglected his people at times.
- > Ask the Lord to forgive you for getting preoccupied with so many other things that you've overlooked his great and gracious work.
- > Praise God for providing communion with him and community with others.
- > Thank the Lord for all that he has given and ask him to make you a giver according to his blessing.