

## BLESSING OR CURSE? CHOOSE

Introduction – Having put off the second part to the Worship message until next week when all of the team and future potential team members will be back with us, I sought God as to what He would have me to share this Sunday. I deliberated between two messages all week (with no real 100% peace over either of them). Finally, in my devotion time on Friday, God spoke very clearly His Word for today. It, much like the series that we are presently teaching (My Way or the Highway) appears to be an ultimatum from God. It also appears to follow up nicely with what the Lord spoke to us so powerfully last Sunday in our Resurrection Celebration. With soberness, realizing once again the implications of our response one way or the other, I deliver His Word to you.

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*Deut. 11:26 (NLT) – “Today I am giving you **THE CHOICE** between a **BLESSING** and a **CURSE**.”*

*“THIS DAY – YOU SET LIFE, YOU SET DEATH RIGHT BEFORE US.  
THIS DAY – EVERY BLESSING AND CURSE IS A CHOICE NOW.  
AND WE CHOOSE TO BE A BLESSING FOR LIFE.”*

*- The Blessing, John Waller / Record Label: [Worshiptogether.com](http://Worshiptogether.com)*

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### 1. THE REQUIREMENT

*Deut 11:13 – “If you carefully **obey** all the command I am giving you today, and if you **love** the Lord your God with all your heart and soul, and if you **worship Him**...”*

- **OBEY ... LOVE ... WORSHIP**

**\*Discussion:** What do each of these requirements mean to you? ... to us as a church?

### 2. THE RESULT

*Deut 11:14 – “...then **He will** send **the rains** in their proper seasons so you can **harvest**... **He will** give you **lush pasturelands** ... and you will have **plenty to eat**.”*

- **RAINS ... HARVEST ... PLENTY TO EAT**

**\*Discussion:** What do each of these results mean to you? ... to us as a church?

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### 3. THE REQUIREMENT (2)

*Deut 11:18-20 – “So **commit yourselves completely** to these words of mine. **Tie** them to your hands as a reminder, and **wear** them on your forehead. **Teach** them to your children. **Talk** about them when you are at home and when you are away on a journey, when you are lying down and when you are getting up again. **Write** them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates...”*

- **TOTALLY IMMERSED**
- **TIE ... WEAR ... TEACH ... TALK ... WRITE**

**\*Discusson:**

1. Pastor used to the Tabernacle Laver to describe this point. What two things does the laver picture?
2. How does this point reflect upon that?

4. **THE RESULT (2)**

*Deut 11:21 – “...so that, as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish...”*

- **FLOURISH**

**\*Discussion:** What does it mean to flourish?

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5. **THE REQUIREMENT (3)**

*Deut 11:22 – “Be careful to **obey** all the commands I give you; show **love** to the Lord your God by **walking** in His ways and **clinging** to Him.”*

- **OBEY ... LOVE ... WALK ... CLING**

**\*Discusson:** What do each of these results mean to you? ... to us as a church?

6. **THE RESULT (3)**

*Deut 11:23-25, 12:2-3 – “Then the Lord will drive out all the nations in your land, though they are much greater and stronger than you. Wherever you set your feet, the land will be yours. Your frontiers will stretch .... No one will be able to stand against you, for the Lord will send fear and dread ahead of you, as He promised you, wherever you go in the whole land. ... When you drive out the nations that live there, you must destroy ... break down ... burn ... erase ...”*

- **TOTAL VICTORY ... OCCUPY THE LAND**
- **DESTROY ... BREAK DOWN ... BURN ... ERASE**

**\*Discussion:**

1. What are the two “lands” that God wants to occupy with us?
2. To what are we being so ruthless, and why? \*(Has to do with maintaining victory)