

## Field Guide and Leader Guide 9.14.25

### Scripture Reference

#### Deuteronomy 4:6

### Summary

What we believe about God is the most important thing about us. If we see Him as distant, harsh, or absent, fear and emptiness fill our lives. But if we know Him as near, strong, and kind, even the darkest places feel less overwhelming. Like a child walking through a dark forest with their father, our perception of God changes how we face the journey. The Bible, from beginning to end, answers Tozer's concern—it shows us what God is like.

God revealed Himself to Israel so that all nations could see His wisdom, justice, and uniqueness. He established rhythms of sabbath, sabbath years, and Jubilee to reveal His heart: a God who brings freedom, cancels debts, restores families, and proclaims liberty. These were not empty rituals but reflections of His character. And now, in Christ, we live in the fullness of God's liberty and justice every day. He is the God who breaks chains, redeems the oppressed, restores the broken, and gives fresh starts. This is who He is—and this is who we are called to reflect to the world.

### Questions and Follow-Up

1. **How does your current view of God—whether close, distant, harsh, or kind—shape the way you live day to day?**
  - **Follow-Up 1:** Can you think of a time when your view of God directly affected how you handled a challenge?
  - **Follow-Up 2:** What helps you correct false views of God and replace them with truth from Scripture?
2. **Jubilee promised a radical reset for Israel. Where in your life do you long for a fresh start, and how does Jesus provide that for you now?**
  - **Follow-Up 1:** How does Christ's work on the cross offer a deeper reset than Israel experienced in Jubilee?

- **Follow-Up 2:** What would change in your outlook if you lived every day as if you already had a fresh start in Christ?

**3. If God's heart is for liberty and justice, how can we as individuals and as a church embody His character for the world to see?**

- **Follow-Up 1:** What are some practical ways our church can reflect God's justice and care in Payson?
- **Follow-Up 2:** On a personal level, how can you show God's liberating love to someone in your life this week?

### **Scripture References**

Deuteronomy 4:6 | 1 Kings 8:60–61 | Deuteronomy 15:1 | Deuteronomy 15:13–15 | Leviticus 25:10

### **Conclusion**

The God of the Bible is not cold, indifferent, or absent—He is present, powerful, and kind. He is a chain-breaking, debt-canceling, life-restoring God who delights in liberty and justice. His commands to Israel were not mere laws but windows into His heart. In Christ, we see that heart fully revealed: a God who redeems and restores.

So the question is not only, *"What is God like?"* but also, *"How can we show the world what He is like?"* As we pray and move forward together as a church, let us be a people who reflect His justice, proclaim His liberty, and embody His redeeming love in our community.