



HG254: Mountain Top Experiences  
**Nebo: Mount Of Hope**

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Home Group Study Notes

12 March 2023 - Pauline Randall



PLEASE COMPLETE AS MUCH AS YOU CAN  
ON THIS WORKSHEET IN PREPARATION  
**BEFORE THE MEETING!**

*Don't forget to take your Bible to Home Group  
with you, along with any previous notes and other  
resources which might be helpful for your discussions.*



**Welcome** (10 mins)  
*Ice Breaker*

What are your Hopes?



**Looking Upwards** (10 mins)  
*Worship*

In your time of worship, you may want to sing Songs of Praise; listen to a Worship CD, as well as using Meditations; Bible Readings; Prayers ...



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Home Group Sermon

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## **Introduction**

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> in the current Home Group series on ‘Mountain Top Experiences’. We come to Mount Nebo where we read in Deuteronomy 34: 4-6 that the Lord told Moses that he would ‘**see it**’ but not cross over it. And Moses the servant of the Lord died there in Moab.

Moses climbs Mount Nebo and surveys the Promised Land. His prayer to see it is granted. He can die content that his mission is accomplished.

Moses dies at the age of 120. In Egypt, such an age would be attributed to a person of great distinction. The Bible also says, **“his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone”**.

**A detail all the more significant given that he was able to climb Mount Nebo on his own.** In the Bible his epitaph is even finer.

**‘Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face’. (34:10)**

## **Moses - The Greatest Prophet!**

No other prophet had the distinction of knowing God face-to-face (Deuteronomy 34:10; see also Exodus 33:11). Moses was still regarded as Israel’s greatest prophet; except to God in the signs and wonders and mighty deeds that he performed in the wilderness. (Deuteronomy 34:11; see also Exodus 6:1; 7:3).

Yet even this great man was not allowed to enter the promised land. Whether or not Joshua will meet this standard in the eyes of the people is yet to be seen.

Moses was the greatest leader Israel ever had. Despite his sense of inadequacy, he accepted God's call to confront Pharaoh and head up the exodus. In a quiet, self-effacing way, he discerned God's will and made it known to others. He encountered ALL kinds of difficulty and discouragement during the trek across the desert – but met EVERY crisis with honest passion and un-failing **PRAYER**. His enduring achievement was that he received the revelation of God's law, and made every effort to record it, teach it and establish it for future generations.

### **Moses' Leadership**

Moses' death comes after a forty-year journey in the wilderness when they had come to the plains of Moab. Although God promised to go before the Israelites on their sojourn to Canaan, if it were not for Moses' leadership and intercession on more than one occasion; the people would have been died.

At last Moses sees the land he has for 40 years longed to enter.

Israel sees him no more. ...but we meet him once again in Scripture – on a mountain, talking to the Lord. (Mark 9:2-4)

So as we follow Moses and hear how he survived and endured all that happened during this time; repeatedly we are told that he never lost HOPE in all that God had promised him. He **PRAYED** and **TRUSTED GOD**.

### **Hope**

We are encouraged to hold onto HOPE, especially during those times when life is very difficult and hard, for whatever reason. Maybe all we can see before us is a big mountain to climb or go around. Life can be very tough at times.

Personally, I can say without doubt that there have been times in my own life when all has seemed impossible. When I haven't been able to see a way forward – even as a Christian! There have been 'wilderness' times for me and HOPE has seemed beyond reach.

During those times it has always been very helpful to have trusted Christian friends who have supported me, encouraged me, been there for me. Homegroup has always been a very safe place for me. Over many years and in a few different Homegroups during my life here in Billericay, there have always been those who have guided me and sometimes just been alongside me to pray with me and enable me to find my way again. At times they have lovingly and prayerfully pointed out things that could be wrong and not the best that God would want of me. Trusted Christian friends have been invaluable to me that has often been a two-way thing.

The Bible has much to say about HOPE.

**“You will have courage because you have HOPE” (Job 11:18).**

**...and even when you don't feel hopeful..... call on the One who does.**

**“The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;  
my God, is my rock, in whom I take refuge.  
He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold”.**

**(Psalm 18:2)**

So regardless of your circumstances, keep your HOPE alive today by staying focused on God. We must be careful not to get too attached to what we have around us because they are temporary!

**“those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them.**

**For this world in its present form is passing away”.**  
**(1 Cor 7:31)**

**”Be strong, and take heart, all you who HOPE in the Lord”.**

**Psalm 31:24.**

## **Conclusion**

The action now passes to Joshua – but the book closes with a simple and moving tribute to the greatest of all Israel’s leaders. There would be no prophet to match him until Elijah; no one to surpass him but Christ himself.

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## *Emmanuel Church Text 2023*



*The LORD bless you and keep you: the LORD make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you: the LORD turn his face toward you  
and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26*

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## **Looking Upwards** (40 mins)

### *Bible Study*

Read the text for this study, and any references given, then answer the following questions. You may find it helpful to listen to the sermon and/or read through the sermon notes as you do so. Discuss some, or all, your answers with your Home Group and, remember, these questions are only a guide to start your discussions.

**1:** What enables you to hold onto Hope?

**2:** Have there been times in your life when it has been very difficult to be hopeful?

**3:** What has helped you hold onto Hope? Have there been people you know or even strangers who have been there for you in difficult times?

**4:** Is your faith and trust in Jesus the Rock that sustains you?

**5:** How did Moses keep on going on during his lifetime?

**6:** Have you got a special place where you go to be close to Jesus? What about Prayer?



Is there anything you most want to put into practice as a result of this study?



## **Looking Inwards** (15 mins) *Caring For Each Other*

*Reflecting on your life at the moment, is there anything you would like to share with other members of your home group which you feel is appropriate (this is an opportunity to share, not something you have to do, however, 'It's the sharing that enables the caring!') for:*

Thanksgiving?

Prayer?

Encouragement?

Support in any way?



## **Looking Outwards** (15 mins) *Concern For Others*

*Is there anything concerning someone in your: family; circle of friends; neighbours or church, which you would like to share (please be sure not pass on anything that is confidential or which you think the person concerned would not wish to be shared) for:*

Thanksgiving?

Prayer?

Encouragement?

Support in any way?

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Part Of The Billericay & Little Burstead Team Ministry