

**Life Group Guide Obadiah “Love Your Neighbor Now” For the Sermon Preached on Sun
May 21 and For Use in Life Groups through Sun May 28**

Icebreaker Question

Did you ever have a “nemesis” when you were younger?

Pastor Pete’s Sermon Outline

I. 1 God’s prophet has a vision for Edom (and all nations)

- a. God gave Obadiah a prophetic vision during the times of 2 Kings.
- b. God spoke against Edom. Who is Edom?
 - i. Abraham received a promise of a seed (a person and a people) who will bring him to the land where God dwells—to approach God on a mountain.
 - ii. God passed this promise from Abraham to Isaac, but He exiled his older brother Ishmael to the east.
 - iii. Isaac’s wife had twin boys wrestling in her womb.
 - 1. Esau (Edom) was the older brother who was exiled to the east.
 - 2. Jacob (Israel) was the younger brother whose descendants inherited the promise and the call to approach God on a mountain.
 - iv. Both nations were given a land and a mountain close to each other.
 - 1. Edom – the land and mountain of Seir.
 - 2. Israel – the land of Canaan and the mountain of Zion.
 - v. Edom is a word play on “Adam” because Edom’s struggle, exile and judgment is a preview of all humanity’s judgment.

II. 1–14 Obadiah preaches against the nation Edom.

- a. 1–3 Edom will face conflict with the nations.
 - i. 1 God’s word and messenger for Edom is war with the rest of humanity.
 - ii. 2–3 Edom’s self-confidence has led to false pride and a false sense of security: “Who will bring me down?”
- b. 4–11 Edom will face conflict with God through the nations.
 - i. 4–5 God’s complete judgment will bring Edom down no matter how high he sets himself.
 - ii. 6–7 The nations Edom covenanted with for peace will betray and plunder them.
 - iii. 8–11 God will use the nations to slaughter Edom’s wisdom, warriors, and people because they did violence against their brother Jacob (Israel).
- c. 12–14 Edom must not sin against their brother anymore.

III. 15–21 Obadiah preaches against all nations.

- a. 15 Like Edom, a day of judgment awaits all nations in the day of the LORD.
 - i. The day of the LORD is the last day of the last days, the second coming.
 - ii. The day of the LORD ends all idolatry everywhere as God’s presence covers the whole creation.
 - iii. Edom’s day of judgment previews everyone’s day of judgment.
- b. 16–18 Israel will devour and burn up Edom so that they have no survivors.
- c. 19–21 Those delivered by God will ascend Mt. Zion to rule all the mountains.

Obadiah 1–11

Read Obadiah 1–14: Observation

- 1. In 1, against whom is this prophetic message in a vision?
- 2. In 1–3, what is God’s message to all the nations against Edom?
- 3. In 1–3, what is Edom’s problem? What question does Edom ask in arrogance?
- 4. In 4–5, what is God’s answer to Edom’s arrogant question?
- 5. In 6–7, what kind of nations will afflict Edom?
- 6. In 8–9, what will be destroyed from Edom by God through these nations?
- 7. In 10–11, why will Edom be destroyed in this way?

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Interpretation

- 8. Why is pride a sin? What does pride keep us from being and doing?
- 9. Why does God answer our sins with judgment? Why does He use others as part of His judgment? Why is betrayal by brothers a common theme for everyone’s life?

Application

- 10. Who are the people you have sinned against most in your life? Has your pride continued in this way of sinning, or have you already repented (and re-repented) of your pride in this area?
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Obadiah 12–14

Read Obadiah 12–14: Observation

- 11. In 12–14, what should Edom not do with their brothers?

Interpretation

- 12. Why is following these instructions so difficult? Why are our initial responses to our enemy’s calamity so similar to Edom’s approach? What should be our approach to others’ difficulties?

Application

- 13. How can you pray for your own personal enemy/ rival this week?
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Obadiah 15–21

Read Obadiah 15–21: Observation

- 14. In 15, what day of judgment is described? For whom is this day of judgment?
- 15. In 15, what reason is given for the judgment?
- 16. In 16, what will the nations do on Edom’s mountain?
- 17. In 17–18, what will God’s people do against Edom? What will be Edom’s final result?
- 18. In 19, what areas will God’s people possess?
- 19. In 20, how are God’s people described, and what will they do in the end?
- 20. In 21, what is the fate of Israel’s and Edom’s mountains? Whose kingdom will come to both mountains?

Interpretation

- 21. Why do Edom and Israel share the same problem and the same hope? What should an Edomite do in response to this book’s counsel? Do all readers of this book share the same problem and hope? What should a reader do in response to this book’s counsel?

Application

- 22. Memorize Obadiah 15.
 - 23. How might you use this book to minister to a family in conflict?
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