



**SOUTHERN CROSS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*growing followers of Jesus*

## **SERIES COMPANION TERM 3 2019**



# **CHOOSE**

## **DEUTERONOMY**

# **LIFE**

<b>1</b>	<b>JUL 28</b>	<b>LESSONS LEARNED?</b>	<b>DEUTERONOMY 1-3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>AUG 4</b>	<b>GOD'S GOOD LAW</b>	<b>DEUTERONOMY 4-5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>AUG 11</b>	<b>THE ONLY GOD</b>	<b>DEUTERONOMY 6</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>AUG 18</b>	<b>A HOLY PEOPLE</b>	<b>DEUTERONOMY 7</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>AUG 25</b>	<b>WORSHIP GOD'S WAY</b>	<b>DEUTERONOMY 12-13</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>SEPT 1</b>	<b>THE GOOD LIFE</b>	<b>DEUTERONOMY 23-25</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>SEPT 8</b>	<b>OBEY &amp; FOLLOW GOD</b>	<b>DEUTERONOMY 27-29</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>SEPT 15</b>	<b>CHOOSE LIFE</b>	<b>DEUTERONOMY 30</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>SEPT 22</b>	<b>CELEBRATION SUNDAY</b>	



# CHOOSE LIFE

You wouldn't think the choice between life and death would be a hard one to make. But what if choosing life seemed like the harder road to take—what then?

It was a situation just like that facing the people of Israel in the book of Deuteronomy. There they stood after 40 long years of wandering in the wilderness, perched on the edge of the Promised Land. They could see and smell and almost touch a land where the grass was greener, the milk was whiter and the honey was sweeter than anywhere they'd ever called home. But would they learn from their mistakes and trust God's promises to enter & enjoy the land or would history be repeated?

To prepare for this momentous step, God spoke to his people through his servant Moses in the longest recorded sermon in the Bible. God's message through Moses is clear: the choice is before you—life or death; trust or fear; blessing or curse, which will you choose?

As we study Deuteronomy together, my hope is that we'll discover that God's way is still the best way and he is inviting us to CHOOSE LIFE by trusting and obeying him as we live here on the edge of the promised land.



## How to be growing followers of Jesus as you study God's Word...

### **In community**

It's good to study the Bible by yourself but it's even better to do it with friends. Bible study is best when it happens in the context of community. Bible study shouldn't be just an unrelated add-on to the rest of your busy life, it should be an essential part of an integrated whole—Christian friends doing what Christian friends do. There are two key ways we should be making use of God's word in community: "word to life" and "life to word".

### **Word to life**

When we study the Bible together we're letting God set the agenda. That's very important! We listen to God speak in the Bible, we work hard to help each other understand exactly what he's saying, and then together we apply what God is saying to our lives in the confidence that our loving Creator and Redeemer knows what's best for us. The important thing to remember is that we actually need each other throughout this whole process. It's great to study the Bible together!

### **Life to word**

The second crucial way that we should be making use of the Bible in community is in day-to-day conversation, starting with the everyday happenings of our lives and applying the gospel to those situations. The great thing is that the better we get at moving from "word to life", the better we'll get at moving from "life to word" and the more our communities will be shaped by the gospel of Jesus! So enjoy—make the most of it—and let's watch as God shapes us to be more and more like his glorious Son!



1-5 MOSES EXPLAINS THE TORAH



1-11 MOSES' OPENING SPEECH

7-3 THE STORY SO FAR...



THE **SHEMA**

7-11 MOSES' CALL TO COVENANT FAITHFULNESS

LISTEN ISRAEL, THE LORD IS OUR GOD, THE **LORD ALONE**, AND YOU SHALL **LOVE** THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, ALL YOUR SOUL, AND ALL YOUR MIGHT." - (DEUT 6:4-5)

**LISTEN** "HEAR" + "RESPOND" = **OBEY**

**LOVE** "EMOTION" + "DECISION" = **DEVOTION**

**LORD ALONE** (LITERALLY, "THE LORD IS ONE") ISRAEL IS TO WORSHIP **ONLY THE ONE GOD**



# DEUTER

## A CALL TO COVENANT

SOME LAWS ARE NEW, BUT  
GREEK: ΔΕΥΤΕΡΟΝΟΜΙΟΝ

12-26 COLLECTION



17-26 CIVIL LAWS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

MARRIAGE, FAMILY & BUSINESS PROTECTION OF THE VULNERABLE

TIPS FOR READING DEUTERONOMY

- 1.) THE LAWS ARE THE TERMS OF THE SINAI COVENANT GIVEN TO ANCIENT ISRAEL.
- 2.) DON'T COMPARE THEM WITH MODERN LAWS, BUT WITH THE LAWS OF ISRAEL'S NEIGHBORS.
- 3.) DISCERN THE CORE PRINCIPLE UNDERLYING THE LAW.

EXTRA CREDIT:  
SEE HOW PAUL (1 CORINTHIANS 9:9) DOES THIS WITH DEUTERONOMY 25:4!

# RONOMY

WANT FAITHFULNESS

... BUT MANY ARE REPEATED.  
 ΔΕΥΤΕΡΟΝΟΜΙΟΝ = "SECOND LAW"

### QUESTIONS UNRESOLVED IN THE TORAH

- WHEN WILL THE DESCENDANT OF WOMAN COME TO DEFEAT EVIL? (GENESIS 3)
- HOW IS GOD GOING TO RESCUE THE WORLD THROUGH ABRAHAM'S FAMILY? (GENESIS 12)
- HOW CAN A HOLY GOD BE RECONCILED TO REBELLIOUS PEOPLE? (EXODUS-NUMBERS)
- HOW WILL GOD TRANSFORM THE HEARTS OF HIS PEOPLE? (DEUTERONOMY 30)

## ION OF LAWS

16b-18

ISRAEL'S LEADERS ... UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF:

**THE LAW & THE PROPHETS**

ELDERS    PRIESTS    KINGS

SOCIAL JUSTICE  
 OF THE WIDOW, ORPHAN & IMMIGRANT

**THESE LAWS:**

ISRAEL  
 HIGHER LEVEL OF JUSTICE

VS.

CODE OF UR-NAMMUL    MIDDLE-ASSYRIAN LAWS    CODE OF HAMMURABI

## 27-34 MOSES' FINAL SPEECH & DEATH

27-30 WARNING & ULTIMATUM

TODAY I SET BEFORE YOU LIFE OR DEATH, BLESSING OR CURSE, GOODNESS OR EVIL... SO CHOOSE LIFE, BY LOVING THE LORD YOUR GOD AND LISTENING TO HIM! (30:15-20)

LISTEN & OBEY → BLESSING

REBELLION → DEVASTATION & EXILE

I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO REBEL AND GO INTO EXILE...

...BUT ONE DAY, GOD WILL CIRCUMCISE YOUR HEARTS, SO YOU CAN LOVE GOD AND LIVE.

REBELLION IN THE GARDEN

JEREMIAH 31 AND EZEKIEL 36

31-34 MOSES' LAST WORDS & DEATH

POEM OF WARNING 32

POEM OF BLESSING 33

created by the Bible Project



# SAMPLE STUDY

## Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.

### Read the chapter



BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?

*Pay close attention to the logical flow of the passage. If it contains direct teaching (e.g. the NT letters), the most helpful tool in your kitbag is to follow the linking words (e.g. "therefore", "so", "but"). If your passage is more descriptive, the logic (and therefore the point) will be less explicit so you'll need to focus on the flow of the story to work it out. You'll also want to keep an eye out for significant themes which may be highlighted by repetition or by the use of metaphors or significant words or word families.*



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?

*The Bible is God's "special revelation". In it he reveals himself to us so that we can know him. So the Bible is like a WINDOW through which we can see the most glorious view ever beheld—a view of God himself. When we read the Bible we should be keeping the authors purpose in mind—to know him—rather than coming with our own agendas.*



MIRROR

3. What did you discover in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?

*The Bible also acts like a MIRROR. As we read God's word and discover what he is like, we should also be looking to discover ourselves. A mirror allows us to see features and parts of ourselves that we wouldn't otherwise (and perhaps would rather not!) see. The Holy Spirit uses God's word to shape the way we think about ourselves and our circumstances. The Bible corrects our distorted views with the main purpose of helping us to relate rightly to God and our neighbour.*



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?

*The Bible, like all good stories, has a shape to it. It has a focus. It has a hero. God's self-revelation is fulfilled in Jesus. So no matter what part of the Bible we're reading we'll only fully understand it when we grasp how it points us to Jesus and enlarges and deepens our understanding of the gospel. Some tools to help in discovering this dimension of a passage are the SALVATION HISTORY tool (asking "what role does this passage play in the grand story of the bible?"); the TYPOLOGY tool (asking "how is this person (or group or situation) a type (or anti-type) of Jesus?"); and the THEMES tool (asking "what gospel themes are central to this passage?"). This can also be a good time to think about personal application—i.e. If this is true about Jesus and his gospel, then what difference should it make to my life?*



QUESTIONS

5. What questions has this passage raised for you that remain unanswered?

*One of the key skills in Bible discovery is to be inquisitive. Asking questions will help you get the most out of any passage. Whenever you feel any mental discord reading a passage it's a sign that there's still more to discover, so dig in! Any questions that remain unanswered are worthy of group discussion. Such questions might be logical ("I just don't get how the whole passage fits together"); theological ("this doesn't seem to match with my understanding of what the Bible teaches elsewhere"); semantic (I'm not sure I really know how those words are being used); etc...*



RESPONSE

6. How should you respond to this passage in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?

*This is perhaps the most important and most neglected aspect of Bible discovery. God has given us his word for a purpose—so that we can know him and be inwardly and then outwardly transformed by our relationship with him. The challenge is that we are insecure and resistant to the hard work of transformation. Because of our insecurity we're reluctant to admit to ourselves and admit to each other what needs to change. Because of our pride and laziness we'd rather deal with "general truths" that are easy to hold at arms length than let the truth come home. But the good news is we CAN change and community is the God-given context for growing followers of Jesus. You should spend more time discussing and praying through this question than any other.*



SHARE

7. Who could you share all this with beyond your DNA group?

*One of the big obstacles to growing as followers of Jesus is that we don't take our discoveries with us as we go about our everyday lives. And the best antidote to this problem is to be sharing our discoveries with others. Sharing with others is an awesome way of reinforcing our discoveries and driving them deeper down into our lived experience. In addition to the personal benefit, our discoveries have huge potential to deepen our relationships with our friends and to spur them on to be growing followers of Jesus too!*



PRAY

Pray for one another in response to what you've discovered in God's word and what you've shared.

*Prayer is an ESSENTIAL dimension of every aspect of DNA. Prayer transforms what would otherwise be introspective reflection (preparing on our own) or interpersonal dialogue (talking to each other) into something truly spiritual.*

*We will only "discover" the powerful truths of a passage if God opens our eyes to see. We will only "nurture" one another effectively if our discussion is shaped by the wisdom of the gospel. We will only "apply" purposefully and powerfully in response to God's word if the Holy Spirit enables true heart change.*

*So make sure that prayer isn't a rushed activity at the end of your time together. Pray as you prepare. Pray at the beginning, during, AND at the end of your time together. Pray for yourselves and for each other throughout the week. Anyone should feel free to initiate prayer. Everyone should be encouraged to participate in prayer.*

*And one final piece of advice, don't fall into the trap of "sharing prayer points". It chews up valuable time and tends to put our concerns ahead of God's concerns. If its really important it will have come up already in response to God's word. And if it hasn't you can always just pray for it off the cuff—no point in everyone hearing it twice!*



# Lessons Learned?

***Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...***

1. In your experience or observation, how easy is it to obey God when you doubt him? What things can help in such a situation?

2. When faced with a situation that seems too hard what strategies do you or others you've observed typically employ?

***Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...***

## ***READ Deuteronomy 1-3***

3. In 1:1-5, the author sets the scene for Moses' speech and includes two time references that summarise the story so far. What are they and why are they significant?

4. In 1:8-11 God restates some ancient promises. Have a read of Genesis 12:1-3 and see how many connections you can make.

5. In 1:5-3:29, Moses begins his sermon with a highlights package of the previous 40 years of Israel's history. Why do you think he does this?

6. What warnings do these chapters contain for Israel? What encouragements are also here?

7. What can you learn from Israel's mistakes which are retold in these chapters?

***Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...***

8. As a follower of Jesus, what could you add to God's track record as outlined in 1:29-33? How does your response to Jesus compare to Israel's lack of faith?

9. How do you see God's faithfulness as you look back on your own "story so far"?



# Lessons Learned?

## Preparation Questions

*Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.*



### Read Deuteronomy 1-3

BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions has this passage raised for you that remain unanswered?



RESPONSE

6. How will you respond to this passage in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?



SHARE

7. Who could you share all this with beyond your DNA group?



PRAY

In light of what you've discussed, pray together using the ACTS acronym:

A doration (praise)

C onfession

T hanksgiving

S upplication (asking)

PRAY | FOR | YOUR





# God's Good Law

***Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...***

1. Try writing out the 10 commandments (in the right order!) before reading the passage. How did you go?!

2. What common ideas have you heard from non-Christian friends about the 10 Commandments?

***Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...***

## ***READ Deuteronomy 4***

3. What reasons are Israel given for why they should obey the 10 Commandments?

4. Why do you think Moses makes such a big deal about idolatry before getting into the 10 Commandments?

**READ Deuteronomy 5**

5. Do you think the 10 Commandments are arranged in any particular order or relationship to one another?

6. Would you say that God's covenant (formal agreement) with Israel is based on grace or law or both (give reasons for your answer)?

**READ Romans 8:1-4**

7. What does Jesus' fulfilment of the law mean for the role of the law in our lives today?

8. What idolatries and other 'gods' tempt you away from loving God with all your heart, soul & strength?

***Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...***

9. Do you love to obey the Lord your God? If not, or not always, what could you do to change this?



# God's Good Law

## Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



### Read Deuteronomy 4-5

BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



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# The Only God

***Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...***

1. While it might sound normal to us, monotheism (belief in one God) was once a fairly new idea. What other ideas/beliefs belong to monotheism and distinguish it from polytheism (belief in more than one god)?
2. Atheism, on the other hand, is actually a fairly new idea. Why might some people find atheism more appealing than monotheism?

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## ***READ Deuteronomy 6***

3. Verse 5 is a very famous verse in the Bible, sometimes called "The Shema" (Shema is the first word: "hear"). But as the footnote points out, it can be translated in a number of ways. How does the meaning vary with each change?
4. How would you explain the logical flow from verse 4 to verse 5 & then verse 6?

5. Verse 6-9 describe a big place for the law in Israel's daily life. What reason is given in the rest of the chapter for why this is so important?

6. What is the main difference between Israel's God and the gods of the peoples around them?

7. Israel is commanded to pass on not only the law but also its meaning (v20). What is at the heart of the meaning given in verses 21-25?

8. Deuteronomy says to fear the Lord (e.g. 6:2) and also to love the Lord (e.g. 6:5). How do these two attitudes towards God fit together and what could you do to cultivate them more in your own life?

***Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...***

9. A big part of obedience seems to be passing it on. How are you going at helping future generations to love God and obey his commands?



# The Only God

## Preparation Questions

*Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.*



### Read Deuteronomy 6

BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

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# God's Holy People

***Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...***

1. If you're a Christian, why do you think God has chosen you to belong to him?
  
2. In what ways have you heard non-Christians recognise Christians as being different (positively or negatively)? What evidence have their opinions been based on?

***Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...***

## ***READ Deuteronomy 7***

3. According to verse 6, Israel is already "holy" in that God has chosen them to belong to him. But what will it take in order for them to remain holy? Why?
  
4. How do God's commands to destroy the inhabitants of the land fit with his Promises to Abraham—that he'd be the father of many nations and through him all nations would be blessed (see Genesis 12:1-3 & 17:3-8)?

5. From verses 6-11, what are the clear features of God's love for Israel?

6. Verses 12-15 sound a lot like a "prosperity gospel" (God will reward obedience with material blessings). How should the gospel shape our understanding of these verses?

7. In what ways do verses 17-26 address the fear which could be a stumbling block to Israel's obedience?

8. Have you let go of the idea that God loves you because of something in you and embraced the fact that his love for you is TRULY unconditional?

***Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...***

9. According to Deut 4:5-8, Israel's holiness and the blessing that flowed from it was to be a sign to the nations. According to 1 Peter 2:9-12 the same should be true of OUR life together. How could we improve our "missional holiness"?



# God's Holy People

## Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



### Read Deuteronomy 7

BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



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4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



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# Worship God's Way

***Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...***

1. Are you the sort of person who likes things done a certain way? If so, what kinds of things are they and why do you care?

2. What are some of the ways that non-Christians worship?

***Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...***

***READ Deuteronomy 12-13***

3. In what ways are Israel NOT to worship God once they enter the land?

4. What is wrong with worshipping God in these ways?

5. Why do you think the location of Israel's worship is so important to God?
6. What does the severe punishment described in chapter 13 tell you about the seriousness of leading others away from God?
7. There is a lot of death prescribed in these two chapters! How does Jesus' death relate to the sacrifices of chapter 12 and the punishments of chapter 13?
8. What should worshipping God involve for followers of Jesus? Are you careful to worship God his way?

***Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...***

9. What rival gods or idols threaten your love for the one true God? What are you doing/going to do about them?



# Worship God's Way

## Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



### Read Deuteronomy 12-13

BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



QUESTIONS

5. What questions has this passage raised for you that remain unanswered?



RESPONSE

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# The Good Life

***Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...***

1. What thoughts and feelings come to mind for you when you think of the concept of obedience? Are they generally positive or negative?
  
2. What do you think guides the "average Aussie's" code of moral behaviour?

***Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...***

***READ Deuteronomy 23:15-25:19***

3. What motivation for obeying God's law do you recall from earlier in Moses' sermon?
  
4. Many of the laws of Deuteronomy 12-26 are an expansion of the 10 commandments. Which of the 10 do you think are addressed in today's "miscellaneous laws" (the NIV's very uninspired title!)?

5. Compared to the nations around Israel, what kind of society would be created by observing the laws of 23:15-24:7? How do these laws compare to our society's laws and the priorities they reflect?

6. The laws in 24:8-25:14 are mostly related to the 9th commandment "do not bear false witness". How do these laws expand your understanding of the commandment?

***READ 1 Corinthians 6***

7. How is Paul's NT rationale for behaviour within the church similar and yet different from the OT law?

8. To what extent do you think the laws given to Israel should be maintained in our church today?

***Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...***

9. What is one thing you could do differently in response to these chapters that would express trusting obedience to God?



# The Good Life

## Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.

### Read Deuteronomy 23:15-25:19



BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



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# Obey & Follow God

***Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...***

1. Do you respond better to a "stick" or to a "carrot" - to a threatened punishment or to a promise of reward? Why?
2. Think of a formal agreement you have entered into with another party. What conditions govern this agreement?

***Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...***

## ***READ Deuteronomy 27-28***

3. Why does God command the formal ceremony described here?
4. Compare 28:15 with 28:45. What small but significant word drops out of the curses from 28:45? What does this suggest about Israel's future?

5. From your knowledge of Israel's later history, did they get to enjoy the covenant blessings or fall under the covenant curses? What can we learn from their experience?

6. In light of the death & resurrection of Jesus, where do we stand in relation to the blessings and curses detailed in Deuteronomy 27-28?

7. What personal consequences have you experienced as a result of failing to obey and follow God?

***Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...***

8. In what ways have you experienced the blessing of obeying and following God?



# Obey & Follow God

## Preparation Questions

*Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.*



### Read Deuteronomy 27-28

BIG IDEA

1. How would you summarise the central message of this passage?



WINDOW

2. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about what God is like and what he's done?



MIRROR

3. What did you discover (or recover) in this passage about yourself or your circumstances?



GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



5. What questions has this passage raised for you that remain unanswered?



6. How will you respond to this passage in your thoughts, attitudes & behavior?



7. Who could you share all this with beyond your DNA group?



In light of what you've discussed, pray together using the ACTS acronym:

A doration (praise)

C onfession

T hanksgiving

S upplication (asking)

PRAY | FOR | YOUR





# Choose Life

***Kick-off: before jumping into God's WORD, it's worth taking a few minutes to reflect on your own thoughts and attitudes and on the thoughts and attitudes you encounter in the WORLD...***

1. Do you find it hard to admit when you're wrong? If so, what makes it hard?
2. What things have you found most helpful in your battle against sin?

***Discover: the "D" in DNA stands for DISCOVER. It's now time to read God's word and discover what God wants to teach us and why it matters...***

## ***READ Deuteronomy 29-30***

3. As Moses comes to the end of his long sermon, what is the main purpose of recounting Israel's recent history in 29:2-8?
4. Do the disobedience and judgment described in the second half of Chapter 29 sound like something that MIGHT happen or something that WILL happen?

5. What is the attitude that lies behind Israel's future disobedience?

6. When will Israel's fortunes take a turn for the better—what must happen first? When does this happen (see also Jeremiah 31:31-34 & Romans 2:28-29)?

7. Israel turned away from God because they presumed on his mercy and grace—"I will be safe, even though I persist in going my own way." Are you aware of any complacency or presumption in your own attitude towards God?

8. We leave Israel at the end of Deuteronomy, perched on the edge of the promised land. How is our situation similar to theirs and how is it different?

***Nurture & Apply: the "NA" in DNA stands for Nurture & Apply. These questions are designed to help us care for each other and live out God's word...***

9. As we reach the end of Deuteronomy, reflect on what you have been convinced of about where the grass really is greener.



# Choose Life

## Preparation Questions

Use these questions to help you work through the passage and discover what God is saying and how it applies to your life. Do this on your own so that you're ready to share your thoughts when you gather with others.



### Read Deuteronomy 29-30

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GOSPEL

4. How does this passage relate to or contribute to your understanding of the gospel and what it means to live according to the gospel?



5. What questions has this passage raised for you that remain unanswered?



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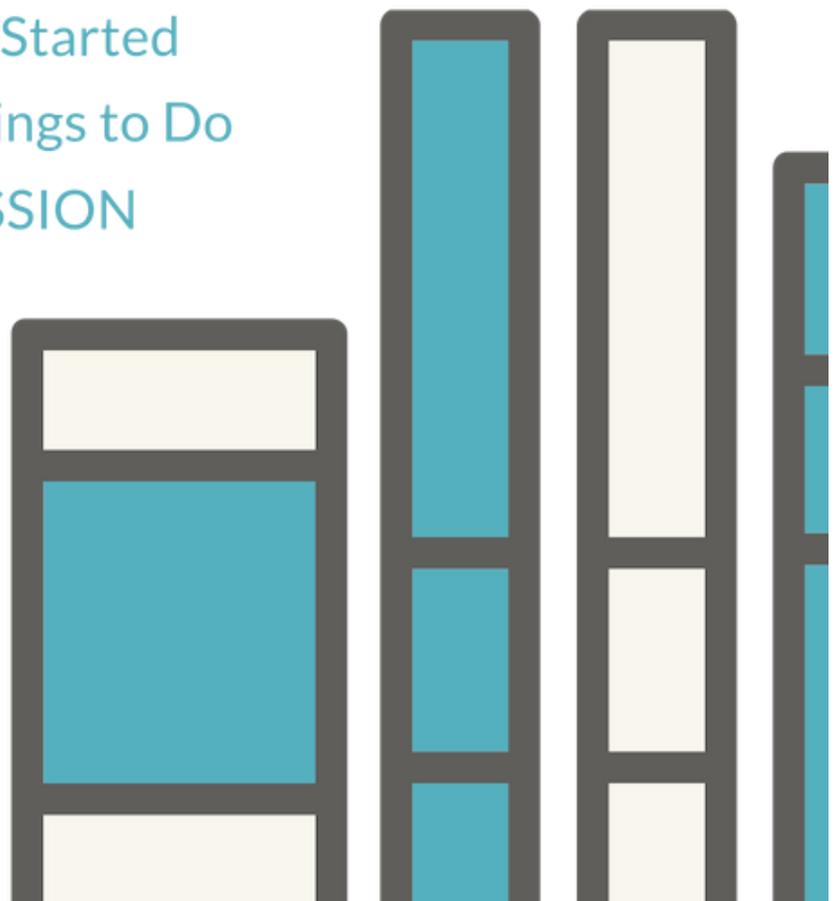


SCPC BOOK CLUB 2019

# HONEST EVANGELISM

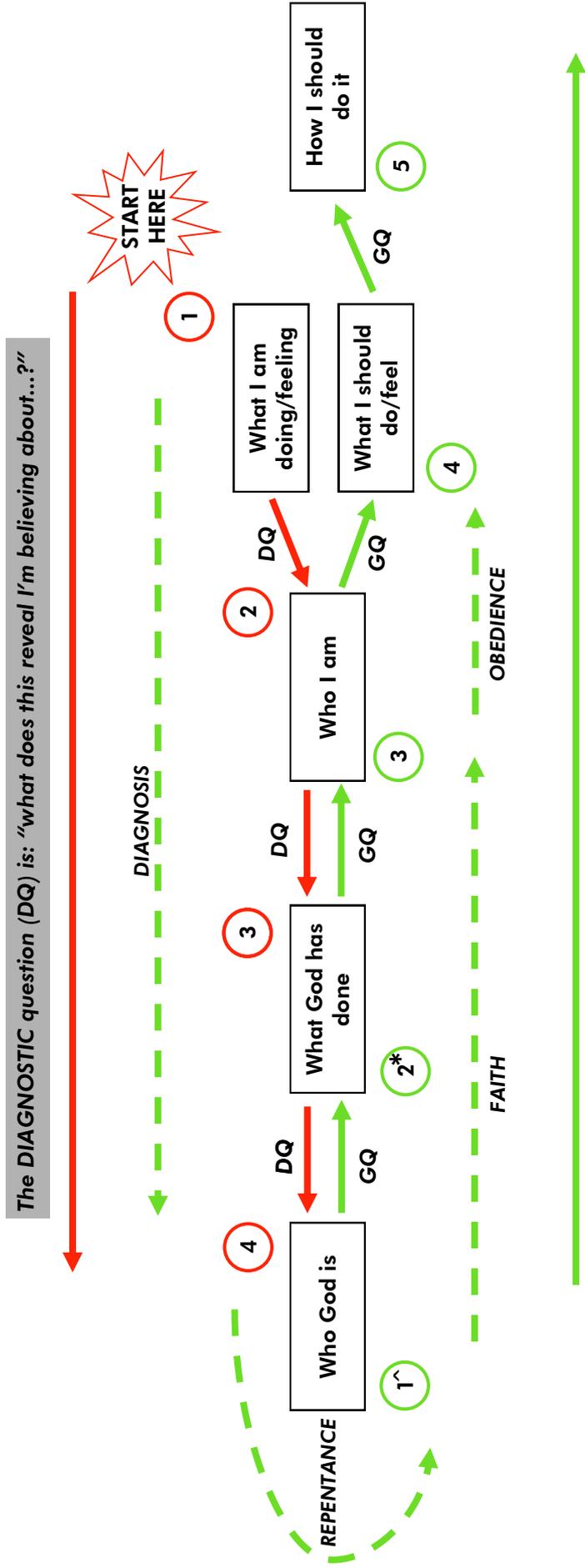
## READING SCHEDULE

DATE	CHAPTER
28th July	Two Halves of the Story
4th Aug	Is it Worth It?
11th Aug	Why we (still) won't Evangelise
18th Aug	What Must I Remember?
25th Aug	What Do I Say?
1st Sept	Be Yourself
8th Sept	Getting Started
15th Sept	Two Things to Do
18th Sept	DISCUSSION



# 5 questions for gospel growth

## (gospel-centred diagnosis, repentance, faith & obedience)



^ NOTE: to help at this point you may want to consider "the 4Gs" which are a helpful summary of God's character: God is...  
 GREAT: so we don't have to be in control  
 GLORIOUS: so we don't have to fear others  
 GOOD: so we don't have to look elsewhere  
 GRACIOUS: so we don't have to prove ourselves

\* NOTE: the focus here should be on Jesus and making him the hero of your story. Consider the 5 elements of the gospel: Jesus' incarnation, his life, his death, his resurrection & his return as one or more of these elements may be most relevant to your circumstances at a particular time.







**SOUTHERN CROSS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*growing followers of Jesus*