# Applying the Covenant 7. Deuteronomy 21:1-20

## Being practical about families in need

# Getting ready for a life with God at the centre

## Moses speaking to the people before entering the Promised Land

### It’s the chance for a new beginning for God’s people

## Chapters 21-26 deals with lots of situations

### The rules given are to draw them to God, His nature and His character so that they can reflect Him in life

### It speaks about life as it really is and how a spiritual person copes with it and responds to it

# The God we know

## Allows injustice

## Lets stuff happen

## Allows stupidity

### Being spiritual does not make you immune to these

# God calls you to accept who you are

## You were made to walk with God

### Through Jesus Christ that is still on offer despite you and others messing it up

### How you go about doing that is just as important as what you do and when you do it

# God calls you to be honourable

### It’s easy to be honourable when you’re on top of things

## Not in theory, but in practice

### Do the honourable thing

### Do the compassionate thing

# God calls you to do the right thing

## This is how they were asked to reflect the character and nature of the God they know

### How much more should we do when we know the extent of God’s grace and love to us

#### He allowed injustice to His Son that we might have eternal life

#### He allowed the death of His Son that we might have Life

#### He offered His Spirit to move us to reflect His love to the world

### How much more should we do the right thing?

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Life with God at the centre

## To what extent is this a suitable description for any religion?

## To what extent is this a suitable description for Christianity?

### How does the Christian differ from other religious groups?

### When you say ‘God at the centre’ what do you mean?

## How can a person prepare for life with God at the centre?

# The God you know

## What has your experience taught you about God?

### Especially think of times when God does intervene and when He doesn’t

# The person you are

## Accepting others as they are is the first step to love but accepting yourself is much harder

### To what extent do you agree with this statement?

# God’s call to be honourable

## In Deut 21 the breadth of the topics is large

### In what ways is it better to see these as illustrative of doing the honourable thing rather than as particular laws governing certain situations?

#### In what ways does God want His people to ‘play fair’ and ‘act justly’?

## To what extent do you agree that it is easier to be honourable when you’re not under pressure?

## Can you be an honourable person and not do the right thing?

### Explain your answer

# The difficult question

## Stoning a difficult child? Really?

### There’s no evidence that this ever happened in real life but it was used as a threat to control children

## How might we deal with wayward children and young people in our modern context?