# Adapting to get from here to there Deut 2:1-3:11

## Time to begin again

# When God disciplines He does not abandon

### Between verses 1 & 2 there are 38 years of wandering

## They were not wasted years

### They learned not to trifle with sin

### The next generation learned to listen to God

# God was generous to His people throughout

## He blessed the work of their hands, they lacked nothing

## He watched over them on their journey in the desert

## They still had silver to pay for water and food 38 years later

### But they knew this was God’s plan B for them

# God takes us on different routes

## There is no formula for becoming spiritually mature

## He wants your listening ear and your heart saying ‘Yes’

### The rest He can work on

## When we listen we know which battles to fight

# God deals with every nation as judge

## We all want God to be fair and just

### The Bible hints that God gives every nation opportunities to turn things around for good

#### There were warnings followed by judgements

### This was not a blanket rule for every nation

## God finally said ‘Enough is enough’ to them

### This order of total destruction was a warning to nations and to Israel

# God keeps His promises

## The land they were NOT to take was given to their cousins

### Esau’s descendants the Edomites

### Lot’s descendants, the Moabites and the Ammonites

#### These were sent away from the Promised Land by God and here we discover why

## These were people who had hope because their sinful ways were open to change

# Homegroup/Private Study Questions

# God disciplines but does not abandon

## How far do you agree with this?

### Share examples if you feel able

## Does this always happen?

### Read the story of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5)

#### In what way does this go against the idea that God disciplines but does not abandon?

#### What does this story tell us about the justice and mercy of God and how we are to treat them?

## Can years be wasted?

### Were the 40 years away from his people wasted by Moses?

#### Explain your answer

# God’s generosity in plan B

## Do you think is it offensive to say that God abandoned a generation in the wilderness?

# Different routes to the same destination

## Why do you think God took them into the Land by a different route?

### How far does this agree with your own journey through life?

#### Tell your stories!

# God as judge

## This passage seems to condone genocide

#### The words used come from a sacrificial term to give something completely and irrevocably to God

### Does God order this now?

#### If not, has God changed His approach?

### How can Christians defend themselves against the charge that our God is a ‘hateful and malicious God’?

#### Must we abandon the texts that tell us things other than ‘God is loving’ and ‘God is forgiving’?

#### How can we answer the charge?

## How far do you agree that in the Bible God shows Himself to be both completely just and completely forgiving?

### How does God ‘break the balance’ between these two opposing truths?

### How does God’s justice change your attitude to repeated sin (falling short of what God asks you to do)?

# God over history

## Looking back can you see God’s hand world history?

### What about your own history?

#### How does this help you look forward with hope?