# Adapting to get from here to there

# Deuteronomy 7:1-26 Starting from here

# Starting again

## Starting from scratch can never happen

## Starting again needs a clear structure

## Starting again after difficulties is not just about what you DON’T want

### It’s also about what is best and right and good and needful as well as what you want

# God has called us to be a distinctive people

### To build a society based on His priorities and His values

## Build without compromise

### No treaty with them because you have one with me, says God

### No mercy because they never gave any ever

### No intermarriage

# God’s actions preceded your response

## He rescued you

### He leads you

### He brings you into the Land and gives it to you (1)

### He drives out your enemies and delivers them to you

## God chose you because He loved you (6-8)

### He is faithful to His promises

### He is the keeper of covenants (9)

### He is the one who blesses (14)

### He is among you (21)

## He is the great and awesome God

### Some things are detestable to Him (25)

# Following God’s call is not easy

## Opposition will come – fight it

### Those with different values will work against us

## Compromise will be demanded – refuse it

### This is the substance of heart, mind, soul and strength of the Shema (6:4-9)

# God wants you to reform things

## Some just go for what they want

### It fails because they don’t take hurting, damaged people with them

## Some just go for minimising past damage

### It fails because there’s no room for growth

## God calls you to do both and become better people in the process

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Starting again

## How far do you agree that starting from scratch without ‘baggage’ can never happen?

### When someone becomes a Christian to what extent do they leave their ‘baggage’ behind?

## How difficult do you find it to start something again with the same people?

### What needs saying?

### What does NOT need saying?

## What things prevent ‘starting again?

## In what ways does having a faith make it easier/harder to start again?

# God’s call to be distinctive

## What’s the difference between being distinctive and being ‘odd’?

### In what ways are this call by Moses and Jesus’ call in the sermon on the mount similar (See Mt 5-7 especially 5:27-30)

## How can we be distinctive without being judgemental today?

# Dealing with Opposition and Compromise

### ‘The wise know which battles to fight’

## What battles have you left alone and why?

### At home? At work?

## Give an example of a battle have you chosen to stand on and how did you deal with it?

## How do you deal with opposition ‘nicely’?

## What compromises do you wish you hadn’t made and why?

## What advice would you give to a person who wants to deal with opposition without being aggressive?

# Reforming things

## How far do you agree that successful reformers are those who both address past damage and have distinctive goals?

### How does that work in the home? At work? In churches?

#### Where is God in this? (Mt 18:20)

#### What does this say about the goals of those in conflict?