# Applying the Covenant 8. Deuteronomy 22:1-23:16 Being good neighbours in practice

# Deuteronomy

## The sermons of a parting leader after 40 years

## A covenant document outlining how God’s people will show and keep the benefits of God’s grace

## Chapters 22-25 give a detailed outworking of the Law on matters of everyday life

# God is generous and loving

## God’s people should reflect this in everyday life

## No-one in God’s community should live selfishly or carelessly

## Every believer has a responsibility to treat the people of the community as family

### This section of the covenant says ‘If you see it, don’t ignore it, do something about it’

# God calls His people to be distinctive

## He calls for dedication

### If you make a promise to God, keep it

#### Remind yourself by every means

### Now you are one of God’s people put everything under God’s leading

## He calls for cleanliness (23:9-14)

### It’s not someone else’s job

#### Take responsibility for your own mess before other people step in it

## He calls for compassion

### If your neighbour is in need help them

# God’s Spirit is given to keep you wholesome

## It’s the spirit of the Law which is important

### Don’t try to take advantage of the law

### Don’t try to take advantage of people through the letter of the Law

# 

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Love your neighbour

## We all see who our neighbours are but Jesus widened our view in Luke 10:25-37

### Read this and share your understanding

# Community life

## This section of Deuteronomy covers straying & overburdened animals, what not to wear, bird nests, building regulations, ploughing, planting, materials to wear, tassels on cloaks, marriages falling apart, rape, sex outside of marriage, adultery, emasculation, people excluded from worship, nocturnal emissions and toilet facilities

### What has any of this to do with faith?

#### Should our faith in Christ be so proscriptive?

### What ‘rules’ should we include in our ‘community life’ agenda for good living?

#### As a church?

#### As part of the wider community?

### How should we deal with people who don’t comply with community rules?

### To what extent should our church ‘rules for good community’ overlap with our ‘community rules’?

### What rules should apply to church people in the use of our buildings and what rules should apply to people who use our buildings?

#### What sanctions should we use when people break our rules?

# God’s call

## To dedication, cleanliness and compassion

### Are we called to the same things in Christ?

#### Explain your answer

### What else are we called to as Christians?