# Applying the Covenant 11. Deuteronomy 25:5-19 Community Care

# Deuteronomy

## Moses preaching his advice after 40 years of leadership in 3 sermons

## A covenant document explaining the context of the agreement between God and His people after He rescues them from slavery, the agreement itself and applications of that agreement for the people living in the Promised Land

### Ch 25 is part of the application section and applies the covenant to locally accepted practices at the time

## The questions for us are:

### ‘How is God speaking to us now through all this?’

### ‘How much of this is relevant and applicable to us now?’

# God is a giving God

## He is giving them the Land

### As another act of grace after rescuing them from slavery in Egypt 40 years beforehand

## His giving comes with strings

### If His people want to prosper with His gifts then they are expected to develop a character of justice and fairness

#### Reflecting God’s character

# God detests cheating and dishonesty

## Not a demand, but an expectation that God’s people will reflect His character

### The standard for God’s people is total equality

# God gives rest to His people

## What will you do when you rest?

## Blotting out the memory of the Amalekites

### Two opposing views:

#### In your rest do not stir up past hurt

##### Remember, but let God do the vengeance and do not be like them

#### In your rest clean up the past

##### Remember to wipe out the Amalekites because they will never change

### Listening to the Spirit for His wisdom to know what to do at any time is essential to Christian living

# Now let’s tackle the problems in our community

### Looking after abandoned or neglected widows (and widowers)

### Rotten families with rotten values that stick together

### Dishonest trading

### Marauding opportunists who prey on the weak without conscience

## Remembering who God is and what He is like

## Remembering who we are, where we came from and what it cost Him

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# God is a giving God

## What has God given you?

### What difference has it made in your life, your attitudes and your behaviour?

# Gifts with strings

## Some don’t like this idea – it sounds ‘off’

### Read Luke 19:11-27

#### What happens to those who use their gifts?

#### What happens to those who don’t use their gifts?

##### Is Jesus telling us that if we don’t use our salvation we will lose it?

###### Explain your answer

# Community problems

## How does the framework of remembering who God is, etc. help Christians to get involved in tackling community problems?

### How does it hinder our involvement?

## What would you say are the biggest problems in our community?

### Examples – loneliness, mental well-being, bullying, scamming, rogue traders, ‘nothing to do’ teenagers, knife crime…

## For a chosen problem discuss how it is being tackled (if at all)

### How could it be done better?

### Who should be involved in dealing with this problem? (Generally & specifically, please)