**DEUTERONOMY**

A lot of the reading in this book is a recap of Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers. If you have started reading from Genesis this will seem like a very repetitive book. Why would Moses take all this time to repeat himself? Deuteronomy takes place about 40 years after the Israelites left Egypt. When they got to the Promised Land the first time, the people were afraid to go and attack the people because they were bigger, stronger and had fortified cities. They forgot that God was going to fight their battles for them. Instead, they were afraid and were punished with 40 years of wandering the desert. One year for everyday the 12 spies spent examining the land. God said those over 20 years old would perish during that time and those 20 and under would be the ones to go into the Promised Land. Here in Deuteronomy, Moses is sharing their history and the same commands that God first gave some 40 years prior. This is a new audience so it may be repetitive to us but it was a new audience.

**Chapter 1-3**: If you have been reading from Genesis you can skim these chapters. If you are starting with Deuteronomy from anywhere else in scripture, go ahead and read these chapters to remember how Israel got to this point in their history.

**Chapter 4:** Verses 25-31: God gives them a glimpse of their future here. We see their punishment (27) and the mercy they will receive (30-31).

**Chapter 9:**

- Verses 4-5: This is a big reason why God was giving Israel the Promised Land. He was punishing the evil of those nations who were there.

- Verses 6-7: Another reminder that Israel was chosen out of grace.

**Chapter 12:** Verse 23: “Only be sure that you do not eat the blood, for the blood is the life, and you shall not eat the life with the flesh”. Once again, we see the connection to blood and life. We are, once again, reminded of the blood of Jesus.

**Chapter 17:** Verse 14. God knew they would be asking for a king.

**Chapter 18:** Verses 1-5: Priest Portions. The priests were to focus on God’s work, not making a living to provide for them and their families. The people would make offerings and sacrifices to God and part of those would go to the priests.

**Chapter 25:** 17-19: God tells Moses to kill every Amalekite and gives the reason why

**Chapter 28-29** are difficult to read because we read about all the punishments that will happen to Israel because they will be unfaithful to God. But, when you read chapter 30:1-10 God says when they return to Him- or repent, He will bring them back and bless them. God always wants us to come back to Him and He welcomes us. The story of the Prodigal Son demonstrates this point in a different way.

**Chapter 28:** Verses 53-57: This is a horrible thing to think about. We can’t even imagine the horror. So much so, we want to say that this is just hyperbole (making a point in a very dramatic and exaggerated way). Ezekiel 5:8-10 makes a similar warning. Sadly, this happened twice in scripture. The first in 2 Kings 6:26-30 and Lamentations 4:10.

**Chapter 33:** Verse 5: Jeshurun (also in verse 26) means upright one. That is Israel.