

DEUTERONOMY 22-27

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

We continue through Deuteronomy as Moses tells the new generation of Israelites the laws they are to obey as they enter into the Promised Land. As a reminder, Deuteronomy is split into three sermons of Moses. The first is a review of the history of the Israelites, the second is a review of the law, and the third is a call to faithful obedience. The purpose of the law is to act like a mirror. It is to reveal the holiness of God and brokenness of people, as well as regulate conduct and behavior. It is important to note we should not be comparing the laws in this section to the laws we have today. Instead, we should compare them to the laws of the other nations and see how incredibly different they were. God's laws were intended to set His people apart from all the other nations, so that they would come to know the One true God. These laws weren't meant to be a burden but a blessing.

These laws cover everything from caring for others property, cleanliness of the camp, forbidden practices, interest on loans, marriage laws, and more! The consistent theme amongst these laws is that God cares a whole lot about how we treat others. This is shown through laws about carrying for people in need. God is reminding them that He has been faithful to them and served them, so they are to do that to others as well. Deuteronomy 24 addresses the idea of not **gleaning** a field, but leaving it for the stranger, fatherless, and the widow. To glean means to pick up, collect, or gather. They were to leave the edges of their fields unharvested in order to protect and provide for the poor and vulnerable. People would pick up the leftover food in order to provide for themselves.

Moses is reminding the Israelites of these gleaning laws to show that God values generosity towards the poor and defenseless, and blesses it. Israelites are also being reminded of how they were once slaves in the land of Egypt. They were to care for the oppressed, because they were once oppressed. We see this law played out in the book of Ruth! This section also covers the idea of **first fruits**. First fruits means giving your best and first things to God. The Lord commanded His people to do this when they entered into the Land. This is a reminder that everything we have is a gift from God. We are called to be **generous**, which means giving more than you are comfortable giving. We serve others, not to receive something, but because we have already received everything in Christ.

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● God cares about the way we treat others!
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Caring for Others● Marriage laws● First Fruits● Covenant Curses
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Deuteronomy 24:18<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you from there. That is why I command you to do this.”● Deuteronomy 24:19<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. Leave it for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.”● Deuteronomy 26:1-2<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “When you have entered the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the Lord your God is giving you and put them in a basket.”
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Glean<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Pick up, collect, or gather● First fruits<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Giving your best and first things to God● Generous<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Giving more than you are comfortable giving

Reflection Questions

1.	What are the three sermons that Moses gives in Deuteronomy?
2.	What was the purpose of the law? Were the laws the same or different than the other nations?
3.	What is gleaning? What is the most well-known example of this in the Bible?
4.	What is generosity? How can you be generous towards others this week?