

## Study Guide for Deuteronomy 19-25

### 1. Read Deuteronomy 19-25 and do the following –

- Look for any **lists** within the text. Number the items in each list and give the list a title. See example. \*
- Mark each of the following words or phrases in some distinctive way. As you have time, it's always good to read the chapters multiple times so you can look for just one thing at a time.
  - **the land** -- where it refers to **the land** that the LORD is giving to Israel. Mark in the same way, any pronouns that refer to that land (such as **it** or **which**).
  - **remember** (or **do not forget**). Mark also the word **forget** if it refers to Israel forgetting. Why? because any "forgetting" that is said to have consequences, implies a command not to forget!
  - **so** (or **thus**) **you shall purge** (or **remove**) **the evil from among you** (or **Israel**)
  - **inheritance**
  - **firstborn**
  - **blood** or **bloodguiltiness**
  - **therefore** – there are lots of why-phrases in these chapters. It's a good idea to mark all why-phrases, but those involving the word **therefore** tend to be more significant. In the interest of time, since we are covering a lot of chapters this week, focus your attention on the **therefore**'s. For a reminder on how to mark these see the Additional Instructions and example below.

### 2. Read Deuteronomy 19 again and mark the word **cities** (also any pronouns such as **there** that refer to the three **cities** that were to be designated in the land). Now, go back and read Numbers 35. On a separate sheet of paper, make a list of everything you learn from Numbers about these cities. Add to your list everything you learn in **Deuteronomy 19**. Use exact words from the text as much as possible.

3. The word **remember** shows up a number of times in **Deuteronomy 19-25** and we already know that it is an important word in Deuteronomy. This is good time to stop and make a list of what all the Israelites were supposed to remember. Start by going back through chapters 1-18 and note on a separate sheet of paper, everything that the Israelites are admonished to **remember**. Then add the things mentioned in chapter 19-25. To save you from having to re-read Deuteronomy 1-18 and, in case, you don't have the previous study guides available with **remember** already marked, there is a list of the previous occurrences of the word **remember** at the very end of this study guide.

4. As you **read Deuteronomy 19-25 again**, consider the idea presented in class that Moses's second speech (Deuteronomy 6-15) could be seen as building on each of the 10 commandments. The 10 commandments being dealt with in chapters 19-25 are noted as headings in the text below.

- Think of those 10-commandment-headings as sort of like chapter titles and decide where you think the paragraph divisions should be. Hint: Try to avoid one-verse paragraphs; especially try to avoid a whole series of one-verse paragraphs! Admittedly such things do occur on occasion in the Bible (maybe even in these chapters!) and we don't want to force things into categories, but consider the possibility that a series of seemingly unrelated verses might, in fact, have a common theme!
- Try to summarize each paragraph in 25 words or less. \*
- Go back and think through if and how each paragraph might relate to the 10-commandment-heading. Note any paragraph that doesn't seem to have anything to do with the commandment it falls under. Also, note any "a-ha" moments you experience in doing this. See examples below.

\* Indicates that there are additional instructions on the last page of this handout on how to do this step.

Text below is from the New American Standard Bible (1995)

## DO NOT KILL

### Deuteronomy 19

- 1 "When the Lord your God cuts off the nations, whose land the Lord your God gives you, and you dispossess them and settle in their cities and in their houses,
- 2 you shall set aside three cities for yourself in the midst of your land, which the Lord your God gives you to possess.
- 3 You shall prepare the roads for yourself, and divide into three parts the territory of your land which the Lord your God will give you as a possession, so that any manslayer may flee there.
- 4 "Now this is the case of the manslayer who may flee there and live: when he kills his friend unintentionally, not hating him previously—
- 5 as when a man goes into the forest with his friend to cut wood, and his hand swings the axe to cut down the tree, and the iron head slips off the handle and strikes his friend so that he dies—he may flee to one of these cities and live;
- 6 otherwise the avenger of blood might pursue the manslayer in the heat of his anger, and overtake him, because the way is long, and take his life, though he was not deserving of death, since he had not hated him previously.
- 7 Therefore, I command you, saying, 'You shall set aside three cities for yourself.'
- 8 "If the Lord your God enlarges your territory, just as He has sworn to your fathers, and gives you all the land which He promised to give your fathers—
- 9 if you carefully observe all this commandment which I command you today, to love the Lord your God, and to walk in His ways always—then you shall add three more cities for yourself, besides these three.
- 10 So innocent blood will not be shed in the midst of your land which the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance, and bloodguiltiness be on you.
- 11 "But if there is a man who <sup>1</sup>hates his neighbor and <sup>2</sup>lies in wait for him and <sup>3</sup>ris<sup>4</sup>es up against him and <sup>5</sup>strikes him so that he dies, and he flees to one of these cities,
- 12 then the elders of his city shall send and take him from there and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die.
- 13 You shall not pity him, but you shall purge the blood of the innocent from Israel, that it may go well with you.
- 14 "You shall not move your neighbor's boundary marker, which the ancestors have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the Lord your God gives you to possess.
- 15 "A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; on the evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed.
- 16 If a malicious witness rises up against a man to accuse him of wrongdoing,

List of what a man might do that would cause the elders to deliver him into the hand of avenger

Do not move your neighbor's boundary marker. (Possibly a one-verse paragraph - also not clear that this has anything to do with "Do not kill" !!!!)

If a single witness accused someone of wrongdoing, judges should investigate and if the witness accused falsely, it should be done to him as he intended to do to the other man.

17 then both the men who have the dispute shall stand before the Lord, before the priests and the judges who will be in office in those days.

18 The judges shall investigate thoroughly, and if the witness is a false witness and he has accused his brother falsely,

19 then you shall do to him just as he had intended to do to his brother. Thus you shall purge the evil from among you.

20 The rest will hear and be afraid, and will never again do such an evil thing among you.

21 Thus you shall not show pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

## **Deuteronomy 20**

1 “When you go out to battle against your enemies and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt, is with you.

2 When you are approaching the battle, the priest shall come near and speak to the people.

3 He shall say to them, ‘Hear, O Israel, you are approaching the battle against your enemies today. Do not be fainthearted. Do not be afraid, or panic, or tremble before them,

4 for the Lord your God is the one who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.’

5 The officers also shall speak to the people, saying, ‘Who is the man that has built a new house and has not dedicated it? Let him depart and return to his house, otherwise he might die in the battle and another man would dedicate it.

6 Who is the man that has planted a vineyard and has not begun to use its fruit? Let him depart and return to his house, otherwise he might die in the battle and another man would begin to use its fruit.

7 And who is the man that is engaged to a woman and has not married her? Let him depart and return to his house, otherwise he might die in the battle and another man would marry her.’

8 Then the officers shall speak further to the people and say, ‘Who is the man that is afraid and fainthearted? Let him depart and return to his house, so that he might not make his brothers’ hearts melt like his heart.’

9 When the officers have finished speaking to the people, they shall appoint commanders of armies at the head of the people.

10 “When you approach a city to fight against it, you shall offer it terms of peace.

11 If it agrees to make peace with you and opens to you, then all the people who are found in it shall become your forced labor and shall serve you.

12 However, if it does not make peace with you, but makes war against you, then you shall besiege it.

13 When the Lord your God gives it into your hand, you shall strike all the men in it with the edge of the sword.

14 Only the women and the children and the animals and all that is in the city, all its spoil, you shall take as booty for yourself; and you shall use the spoil of your enemies which the Lord your God has given you.

15 Thus you shall do to all the cities that are very far from you, which are not of the cities of these nations nearby.

16 Only in the cities of these peoples that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, you shall not leave alive anything that breathes.

17 But you shall utterly destroy them, the Hittite and the Amorite, the Canaanite and the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, as the Lord your God has commanded you,

18 so that they may not teach you to do according to all their detestable things which they have done for their gods, so that you would sin against the Lord your God.

19 "When you besiege a city a long time, to make war against it in order to capture it, you shall not destroy its trees by swinging an axe against them; for you may eat from them, and you shall not cut them down. For is the tree of the field a man, that it should be besieged by you?

20 Only the trees which you know are not fruit trees you shall destroy and cut down, that you may construct siegeworks against the city that is making war with you until it falls.

## **Deuteronomy 21**

1 "If a slain person is found lying in the open country in the land which the Lord your God gives you to possess, and it is not known who has struck him,

2 then your elders and your judges shall go out and measure the distance to the cities which are around the slain one.

3 It shall be that the city which is nearest to the slain man, that is, the elders of that city, shall take a heifer of the herd, which has not been worked and which has not pulled in a yoke;

4 and the elders of that city shall bring the heifer down to a valley with running water, which has not been plowed or sown, and shall break the heifer's neck there in the valley.

5 Then the priests, the sons of Levi, shall come near, for the Lord your God has chosen them to serve Him and to bless in the name of the Lord; and every dispute and every assault shall be settled by them.

6 All the elders of that city which is nearest to the slain man shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley;

7 and they shall answer and say, 'Our hands did not shed this blood, nor did our eyes see it.

8 Forgive Your people Israel whom You have redeemed, O Lord, and do not place the guilt of innocent blood in the midst of Your people Israel.' And the bloodguiltiness shall be forgiven them.

9 So you shall remove the guilt of innocent blood from your midst, when you do what is right in the eyes of the Lord.

10 "When you go out to battle against your enemies, and the Lord your God delivers them into your hands and you take them away captive,

11 and see among the captives a beautiful woman, and have a desire for her and would take her as a wife for yourself,

12 then you shall bring her home to your house, and she shall shave her head and trim her nails.

13 She shall also remove the clothes of her captivity and shall remain in your house, and mourn her father and mother a full month; and after that you may go in to her and be her husband and she shall be your wife.

14 It shall be, if you are not pleased with her, then you shall let her go wherever she wishes; but you shall certainly not sell her for money, you shall not mistreat her, because you have humbled her.

15 "If a man has two wives, the one loved and the other unloved, and both the loved and the unloved have borne him sons, if the firstborn son belongs to the unloved,

16 then it shall be in the day he wills what he has to his sons, he cannot make the son of the loved the firstborn before the son of the unloved, who is the firstborn.

17 But he shall acknowledge the firstborn, the son of the unloved, by giving him a double portion of all that he has, for he is the beginning of his strength; to him belongs the right of the firstborn.

18 "If any man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father or his mother, and when they chastise him, he will not even listen to them,

19 then his father and mother shall seize him, and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gateway of his hometown.

20 They shall say to the elders of his city, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey us, he is a glutton and a drunkard.'

21 Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death; so you shall remove the evil from your midst, and all Israel will hear of it and fear.

22 "If a man has committed a sin worthy of death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree,

23 his corpse shall not hang all night on the tree, but you shall surely bury him on the same day (for he who is hanged is accursed of God), so that you do not defile your land which the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance.

## DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY

### Deuteronomy 22

1 “You shall not see your countryman’s ox or his sheep straying away, and pay no attention to them; you shall certainly bring them back to your countryman.

2 If your countryman is not near you, or if you do not know him, then you shall bring it home to your house, and it shall remain with you until your countryman looks for it; then you shall restore it to him.

3 Thus you shall do with his donkey, and you shall do the same with his garment, and you shall do likewise with anything lost by your countryman, which he has lost and you have found. You are not allowed to neglect them.

4 You shall not see your countryman’s donkey or his ox fallen down on the way, and pay no attention to them; you shall certainly help him to raise them up.

5 “A woman shall not wear man’s clothing, nor shall a man put on a woman’s clothing; for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord your God.

6 “If you happen to come upon a bird’s nest along the way, in any tree or on the ground, with young ones or eggs, and the mother sitting on the young or on the eggs, you shall not take the mother with the young;

7 you shall certainly let the mother go, but the young you may take for yourself, in order that it may be well with you and that you may prolong your days.

8 “When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, so that you will not bring bloodguilt on your house if anyone falls from it.

9 “You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, or all the produce of the seed which you have sown and the increase of the vineyard will become defiled.

10 “You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together.

11 “You shall not wear a material mixed of wool and linen together.

12 “You shall make yourself tassels on the four corners of your garment with which you cover yourself.

13 “If any man takes a wife and goes in to her and then turns against her,

14 and charges her with shameful deeds and publicly defames her, and says, ‘I took this woman, but when I came near her, I did not find her a virgin,’

15 then the girl's father and her mother shall take and bring out the evidence of the girl's virginity to the elders of the city at the gate.

16 The girl's father shall say to the elders, 'I gave my daughter to this man for a wife, but he turned against her;

17 and behold, he has charged her with shameful deeds, saying, "I did not find your daughter a virgin." But this is the evidence of my daughter's virginity.' And they shall spread the garment before the elders of the city.

18 So the elders of that city shall take the man and chastise him,

19 and they shall fine him a hundred shekels of silver and give it to the girl's father, because he publicly defamed a virgin of Israel. And she shall remain his wife; he cannot divorce her all his days.

20 "But if this charge is true, that the girl was not found a virgin,

21 then they shall bring out the girl to the doorway of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death because she has committed an act of folly in Israel by playing the harlot in her father's house; thus you shall purge the evil from among you.

22 "If a man is found lying with a married woman, then both of them shall die, the man who lay with the woman, and the woman; thus you shall purge the evil from Israel.

23 "If there is a girl who is a virgin engaged to a man, and another man finds her in the city and lies with her,

24 then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city and you shall stone them to death; the girl, because she did not cry out in the city, and the man, because he has violated his neighbor's wife. Thus you shall purge the evil from among you.

25 "But if in the field the man finds the girl who is engaged, and the man forces her and lies with her, then only the man who lies with her shall die.

26 But you shall do nothing to the girl; there is no sin in the girl worthy of death, for just as a man rises against his neighbor and murders him, so is this case.

27 When he found her in the field, the engaged girl cried out, but there was no one to save her.

28 "If a man finds a girl who is a virgin, who is not engaged, and seizes her and lies with her and they are discovered,

29 then the man who lay with her shall give to the girl's father fifty shekels of silver, and she shall become his wife because he has violated her; he cannot divorce her all his days.

30 "A man shall not take his father's wife so that he will not uncover his father's skirt.

## Deuteronomy 23

- 1 "No one who is emasculated or has his male organ cut off shall enter the assembly of the Lord.
- 2 No one of illegitimate birth shall enter the assembly of the Lord; none of his descendants, even to the tenth generation, shall enter the assembly of the Lord.
- 3 No Ammonite or Moabite shall enter the assembly of the Lord; none of their descendants, even to the tenth generation, shall ever enter the assembly of the Lord,
- 4 because they did not meet you with food and water on the way when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you.
- 5 Nevertheless, the Lord your God was not willing to listen to Balaam, but the Lord your God turned the curse into a blessing for you because the Lord your God loves you.
- 6 You shall never seek their peace or their prosperity all your days.
- 7 "You shall not detest an Edomite, for he is your brother; you shall not detest an Egyptian, because you were an alien in his land.
- 8 The sons of the third generation who are born to them may enter the assembly of the Lord.
- 9 "When you go out as an army against your enemies, you shall keep yourself from every evil thing.
- 10 "If there is among you any man who is unclean because of a nocturnal emission, then he must go outside the camp; he may not reenter the camp.
- 11 But it shall be when evening approaches, he shall bathe himself with water, and at sundown he may reenter the camp.
- 12 "You shall also have a place outside the camp and go out there,
- 13 and you shall have a spade among your tools, and it shall be when you sit down outside, you shall dig with it and shall turn to cover up your excrement.
- 14 Since the Lord your God walks in the midst of your camp to deliver you and to defeat your enemies before you, therefore your camp must be holy; and He must not see anything indecent among you or He will turn away from you.

## DO NOT STEAL

- 15 "You shall not hand over to his master a slave who has escaped from his master to you.
- 16 He shall live with you in your midst, in the place which he shall choose in one of your towns where it pleases him; you shall not mistreat him.
- 17 "None of the daughters of Israel shall be a cult prostitute, nor shall any of the sons of Israel be a cult prostitute.
- 18 You shall not bring the hire of a harlot or the wages of a dog into the house of the Lord your God for any votive offering, for both of these are an abomination to the Lord your God.



19 “You shall not charge interest to your countrymen: interest on money, food, or anything that may be loaned at interest.

20 You may charge interest to a foreigner, but to your countrymen you shall not charge interest, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all that you undertake in the land which you are about to enter to possess.

21 “When you make a vow to the Lord your God, you shall not delay to pay it, for it would be sin in you, and the Lord your God will surely require it of you.

22 However, if you refrain from vowing, it would not be sin in you.

23 You shall be careful to perform what goes out from your lips, just as you have voluntarily vowed to the Lord your God, what you have promised.

24 “When you enter your neighbor’s vineyard, then you may eat grapes until you are fully satisfied, but you shall not put any in your basket.

25 “When you enter your neighbor’s standing grain, then you may pluck the heads with your hand, but you shall not wield a sickle in your neighbor’s standing grain.

#### **Deuteronomy 24**

1 “When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out from his house,

2 and she leaves his house and goes and becomes another man’s wife,

3 and if the latter husband turns against her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter husband dies who took her to be his wife,

4 then her former husband who sent her away is not allowed to take her again to be his wife, since she has been defiled; for that is an abomination before the Lord, and you shall not bring sin on the land which the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance.

5 “When a man takes a new wife, he shall not go out with the army nor be charged with any duty; he shall be free at home one year and shall give happiness to his wife whom he has taken.

6 “No one shall take a handmill or an upper millstone in pledge, for he would be taking a life in pledge.

7 “If a man is caught kidnapping any of his countrymen of the sons of Israel, and he deals with him violently or sells him, then that thief shall die; so you shall purge the evil from among you.

8 “Be careful against an infection of leprosy, that you diligently observe and do according to all that the Levitical priests teach you; as I have commanded them, so you shall be careful to do.

9 Remember what the Lord your God did to Miriam on the way as you came out of Egypt.

10 "When you make your neighbor a loan of any sort, you shall not enter his house to take his pledge.

11 You shall remain outside, and the man to whom you make the loan shall bring the pledge out to you.

12 If he is a poor man, you shall not sleep with his pledge.

13 When the sun goes down you shall surely return the pledge to him, that he may sleep in his cloak and bless you; and it will be righteousness for you before the Lord your God.

14 "You shall not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your countrymen or one of your aliens who is in your land in your towns.

15 You shall give him his wages on his day before the sun sets, for he is poor and sets his heart on it; so that he will not cry against you to the Lord and it become sin in you.

16 "Fathers shall not be put to death for their sons, nor shall sons be put to death for their fathers; everyone shall be put to death for his own sin.

## **DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS**

17 "You shall not pervert the justice due an alien or an orphan, nor take a widow's garment in pledge.

18 But you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and that the Lord your God redeemed you from there; therefore I am commanding you to do this thing.

19 "When you reap your harvest in your field and have forgotten a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be for the alien, for the orphan, and for the widow, in order that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.

20 When you beat your olive tree, you shall not go over the boughs again; it shall be for the alien, for the orphan, and for the widow.

21 "When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you shall not go over it again; it shall be for the alien, for the orphan, and for the widow.

22 You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this thing.

## **Deuteronomy 25**

1 "If there is a dispute between men and they go to court, and the judges decide their case, and they justify the righteous and condemn the wicked,

2 then it shall be if the wicked man deserves to be beaten, the judge shall then make him lie down and be beaten in his presence with the number of stripes according to his guilt.

3 He may beat him forty times but no more, so that he does not beat him with many more stripes than these and your brother is not degraded in your eyes.

4 "You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing.

5 "When brothers live together and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the deceased shall not be married outside the family to a strange man. Her husband's brother shall go in to her and take her to himself as wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her.

6 It shall be that the firstborn whom she bears shall assume the name of his dead brother, so that his name will not be blotted out from Israel.

7 But if the man does not desire to take his brother's wife, then his brother's wife shall go up to the gate to the elders and say, 'My husband's brother refuses to establish a name for his brother in Israel; he is not willing to perform the duty of a husband's brother to me.'

8 Then the elders of his city shall summon him and speak to him. And if he persists and says, 'I do not desire to take her,'

9 then his brother's wife shall come to him in the sight of the elders, and pull his sandal off his foot and spit in his face; and she shall declare, 'Thus it is done to the man who does not build up his brother's house.'

10 In Israel his name shall be called, 'The house of him whose sandal is removed.'

11 "If two men, a man and his countryman, are struggling together, and the wife of one comes near to deliver her husband from the hand of the one who is striking him, and puts out her hand and seizes his genitals,

12 then you shall cut off her hand; you shall not show pity.

13 "You shall not have in your bag differing weights, a large and a small.

14 You shall not have in your house differing measures, a large and a small.

15 You shall have a full and just weight; you shall have a full and just measure, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you.

16 For everyone who does these things, everyone who acts unjustly is an abomination to the Lord your God.

## DO NOT COVET

17 "Remember what Amalek did to you along the way when you came out from Egypt,

18 how he met you along the way and attacked among you all the stragglers at your rear when you were faint and weary; and he did not fear God.

19 Therefore it shall come about when the Lord your God has given you rest from all your surrounding enemies, in the land which the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven; you must not forget.

## Additional Instructions

Good Bible study involves three steps:

1. Careful and detailed observation of exactly what the text says.
2. Accurate interpretation of what the text means based on a thorough observation of the text as well as an understanding of the Bible as a whole and of the culture in which it was written. The goal in this step is to determine what the author meant when he spoke or wrote the words that have been preserved. *The text can't mean what it never meant.*
3. Appropriate application of the text to one's personal life based on careful observation and accurate interpretation.

Careful observation generally leads to one interpretation but many possible applications.

The following study questions are designed to assist you with the first step only: observation. As you work through the questions provided, you are encouraged to mark up the text that follows. Good Bible study inevitably involves reading a passage more than once. Marking up the text enables you to build on what you learn with each successive reading.

Be creative when marking key words or phrases. Key words or phrases could simply be underlined or double-underlined or circled or boxed with a pen. Or you could be colorful and use highlighters or colored pencils. Symbols above the words work also. Do whatever suits your fancy! The idea is just to make the words stand out so that when you read the passage a second time you will notice that particular word again and begin to see its significance within the passage.

Keep in mind that the goal of observation questions or exercises is simply to spend time handling the text. We want to turn it over, view it from every possible angle, hold it at arm's length, and also examine the details, sort of like what a geologist would do upon picking up a rock for the first time. The more we handle the text, without specifically trying to decide what it means, the better prepared we will be to interpret it and apply it when the time comes to do that. Observation can seem tedious at first: sometimes it may even feel like busy work, but rest assured – its rewards are great!!

### Signal words

**for** -- sometimes signals that a why-question is about to be answered. When you see the word **for**, try substituting the word because and see if the result makes sense. If it does, mark that word in some distinctive way and write the why-question that is being answered in the margin to the left. **For**-phrases usually explain the motive behind the main action. The why-phrase always follows the word **for**.

**that, so that** -- can also introduce a why-phrase but substituting the word because usually doesn't work. Try substituting the phrase in order that and see if the result makes sense. If it does, mark that word in some distinctive way and write the why-question that is being answered in the margin to the left. **That**-phrases usually tell what will be the result of the main action. Again, the why-phrase always follows the word **that**.

**Therefore** -- typically signals another kind of why-phrase. However, this time the why-phrase is typically before the word **therefore**. It could be immediately before or it could be many verses back! The phrase that follows the word **therefore** is typically a statement-of-fact or a command. The reason why the writer can make this statement or give the command is because of something he just said. The idea is . . . "because of A, **therefore** B." When you see the word **therefore** it's important to identify A and B and mark them in some way so that you will be reminded of the connection each time you read the passage.

**but, yet, however, only** – these words often signal that a contrast is being made; two things are being compared and the two things are different in some way. In the margin beside each occurrence of any of these words, note the two things that are being compared and what is different about them.

**as, just as, like, so, or also** – these words often signal that the writer is comparing two things that are similar in some way. In the margin beside each occurrence of any of these words note the two things that are being compared and what is the same about them. When **as** or **just as** are used in a question, they can actually seem to point to a contrast rather than a comparison! The text seems to be saying “Is there any B that is really like A? If the answer is “no,” than the two things are actually being contrasted! If you find places where this seems to be true, feel free to mark the **as** or **just as** in the same way that you marked **but**.

### Time Phrases

Any word or phrase that answers the question, “When did it happen?” or “How long did it go on?” The following words often introduce a time phrase: **then, when, until, while, throughout, before, after, at that time, today, on the first day, regular, for seven days, at twilight**. In some passages of the Bible there are quite a few time phrases so whatever marking you choose needs to be something pretty simple or the text will get so cluttered that you can’t read it! A pale highlight or a single underscore would be good choices.

### Geographical Locations –

Any word or phrase that answers the questions “Where did it happen?” This would include both proper nouns, like **Horeb**, and general terms like **the wilderness** or **in any of your towns**. Again, there can sometimes be quite a few geographical phrases in a particular passage so whatever marking you choose needs to be something pretty simple to keep the text from getting so cluttered that you can’t read it! A pale highlight or a single underscore would be good choices. Just make sure you choose something different than what you use for time phrases

### Lists

Put a number over each item in the list and note what is being enumerated in the margin to the left -- in others words, give the list a title. Keep in mind that lists can be contained within a verse or they can be spread out over an entire chapter.

### Paragraph summaries

Draw a line between verses where a new topic is introduced. Feel free to consult the paragraph divisions in your own personal Bible as a starting place, but don’t be bound by what you find there. Try to summarize each paragraph in 25 words or less using exact words from the text as much as possible. If there are any key repeated words in a particular paragraph, try to include one or more of them in your summary statement.

### Chapter Titles

Try to do this in 10 words or less. Try to use some exact words from the text, but feel free to use others words or phrases such as “Instructions about . . .” or “Warnings about . . .”

**remember, do not forget, and forget** (where there are consequences of forgetting!)

4:9 Do not forget what your eyes have seen	9:7
4:10	9:27
4:23	15:15
5:15	16:3
6:12	16:12
7:18	24:9
8:2	etc
8:11	
8:14	
8:18	
8:19	