

# Deuteronomy Nineteen

## Deuteronomy 19:14

### Launch

This past weekend, through our virtual service, we learned that we love God by loving our neighbor. Deuteronomy 19 begins a new section in Moses' retelling of the law, shifting from instructions focused primarily on loving God to commands that show Israel how to love and care for one another. This transition reminds us that devotion to God is not expressed through worship alone, but through the way we treat the people around us. A central message of this passage is that loving God is inseparable from loving our neighbor, including those who are difficult to love. We are reminded that we cannot truly and sacrificially love God with our whole lives if we are unwilling to love and care for others.

### Explore

#### Read the passage: Deuteronomy 19:1-14

After reading the passage, spend some time reflecting on one of the questions we were posed about the Law. *Scripture is not written to us, but it is for us. Therefore, what is the purpose of the law in my life?*

Open your Deuteronomy books and turn to page 2 and go through the Engage section as a group. Remember, you can always go deeper and find answers to questions at [centralsf.org/34](http://centralsf.org/34).

### Apply

*One way we can interpret the Old Testament law is that it is meant to shape us. In our world, we are constantly being formed by competing influences, culture, social media, political ideologies, peer expectations, success metrics, and personal desires. These forces disciple us (often without us realizing it), shaping our lives, priorities, and understanding of what it means to live a good life. **The question is not if we are being shaped, but by what. If someone looked at your time, attention, and habits, what would they say is shaping you most right now?***

*The truth we pulled out of scripture this week is that: **We love God by loving our neighbor.** At the heart of this truth is greed, the greed that prevents us from loving others because we are self-serving. **So this week, how can you intentionally inconvenience yourself once for the sake of someone else?***

### Pray

*Please pray for our church as we continue our mission expansion, especially this weekend as we transition into the gym. Pray that our minds would be continually transformed and shaped by God's Word as we spend time in Scripture together.*