### **Making it Personal**



 How did this study challenge the way you've been viewing God or the war/violence passages in the Old Testament?

2. What issues does this study raise that are still issues today?

Next Week – Crossroads Series

We Are Better Off Without Religion James 1:23-27

The challenge against the value of religion continues to escalate. From secular claims about the harm religion creates, to the highprofile believers who have either damaged the faith or have walked away altogether.

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God is Violent and Cruel Deuteronomy 7:1-4 Crossroads – Part 3 January 23, 2022



# Life Group Study Notes



# **Series Summary** – Crossroads (6 Part Series)

Standing at a crossroads is the place that demands a decision. Do I go left, or do I stay right? When it comes to matters of faith and belief, there are questions that will force us to stand at a crossroad. Do I let it destroy any belief in God or do I learn from it and grow a deeper faith?

# This Week's Message - God is Violent and Cruel

To our modern sensibilities, the thought of a bloody and barbaric God is appalling. How do we make any sense from passages that call into question God's goodness?

### **Study – Discovering What the Bible Says**

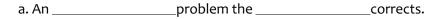


- 1. What was one major takeaway from last week's study? (Hint: It involved the topic of truth)
- 2. What is more difficult for you to reconcile or understand. Why God allows suffering or the violence/war passages in the Old Testament?

#### Read Deuteronomy chapter 7 (The message only dealt with 7:1-4)

3. What are the repeated warnings given to the Israelites in Deuteronomy 7 and why is this detail important for understanding such passages?

4. What were the four points given in the message about how NOT to deal with the problem?



b. The Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_has unrelieved \_\_\_\_\_.

c. The Israelites \_\_\_\_\_God.

d. An \_\_\_\_\_for spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

5. What points were presented to help us wrestle through the violence/war passages in the Old Testament.

a. \_\_\_\_\_of God.

b. \_\_\_\_\_leads to \_\_\_\_\_.

c. \_\_\_\_\_become fuel for \_\_\_\_\_.

d. The nature of \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the "\_\_\_\_\_" principle.

e. In our present world, we need to \_\_\_\_\_easy

6. Are there any other comments or lessons from the message or subject you would like to discuss?

Resources for further study. The God I Don't Understand by Christopher Wright Confronting Christianity by Rebecca McLaughlin Bloody, Brutal, and Barbaric by Bill Webb and Gord Oeste