

Sermon Follow-up | October 27, 2019

SERMON

The Torah — In the Wilderness

Focus Passage: Numbers 13:17–33

Additional Context: Numbers 1:1; 13:1–33

Other Passages Referenced: Matthew 4; John 3:14–15; 6:31–59

Corollary Scripture – Deuteronomy 8:1–5

Sermon Recap: In the Hebrew Scriptures, The Book of Numbers was originally titled, “In the Wilderness.” It describes God’s people following Him in the wilderness. “Numbers” refers to two important censuses described in the book (Num 1:2; 26:2). Those censuses roughly divide the book in two—Chapters 1–25 and 26–36. Numbers illustrates that disobedience to God brings death, but God is not deterred by our disobedience. Signs such as unhealthy cravings, grumbling, and quarreling can help us detect disobedience. Seeing Jesus at the center of Numbers means we don’t look to our doubts about the future, our dubious vision of the past, or the difficulty of the present. Instead we look to Jesus, because “as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life” (John 3:14–15).

Notable Quotes from the Sermon:

- “The question is not, ‘Will God accomplish His purposes?’ The question is, ‘Will God accomplish His purposes through me [or will I disqualify myself so that He uses someone else]?’”
- “The death is slow but don’t let the disobedience deceive you. Disobedience always brings death.”

STORIES 19–21 from the E100 — Pages 26–27 of the *Fall Chapel-wide Study Guide*

- **SERMON** – In the sermon follow-up materials, I included this link to an excellent video overview of the Book of Numbers—. You may find it worthwhile to show the video (6 minutes:50 seconds) at your group. If some members do not have a *Right Now Media* account yet, you can direct them to the wcchapel.org home page. They can click on the orange *Right Now Media* button near the bottom of the page to set up their free account.

Connect: Making Honest Connections with One Another

How was your experience with living by God’s word this past week?

How were you able to let others know about what God’s word says this past week?

There were two key censuses described in Numbers. In which census would you be counted today?

Grow: Listening to and Learning from God’s Word

Two Resources

Sermon – <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/181310?episode=6>

Stories – <https://thebibleproject.com/blog/sermon-mount-jesus-new-moses/>

READ: Stories 19–21 from the Fall Chapel-wide Study

1. Were there any parts of the passages that you found hard to understand?
2. Can you give a synopsis of each of the stories in your own words?
3. Did you see human rebellion/sin or idolatry in any of the passages?
4. Did you see God's judgment of rebellion/sin in any of the passages?
5. Did you see God's love and grace in any of the passages?
6. Can you see how any of the passages relate to other passages you have studied?
7. Do you see any ways in which any of the passages have connections to Jesus in the New Testament?
8. Are there any promises in the passages we need to remember and trust?
9. Are there any commands in the passages we need to obey?

Serve: Serving King Jesus and Others By Living Out and Letting Others Know God's Word

1. In response to the sermon, will you examine your own life to detect unhealthy cravings, giving bad reports in spite of God's goodness, grumbling, or quarreling? ... If you detect these signs of disobedience, what will you do this week to repent and look to Jesus lifted up in obedience to the Father?
2. What do you believe God's Spirit is saying to you specifically about living by His word that we have been listening to and learning from? Will you make a specific effort to live by His word by filling in the blank of this statement? — "With the Holy Spirit's help, I will _____ to live by God's word in the coming week."
3. "With the Holy Spirit's help, I will let _____ (person's name) know what I am hearing and learning from God's word."

Further Resources

- Illustrations and quotes from the sermon can be found on the "Sermon Slides" link at the bottom of www.wcchapel.org
- The Cutting Room Floor — www.wcchapel.org/thecuttingroomfloor