

### Bible Reading Plan



### This Week's Reading

**DAY 64** Wed, Mar 12 Numbers 23—25

DAY 65 Thu, Mar 13 Numbers 26—27

DAY 66 Fri, Mar 14 Numbers 28—30

**DAY 67** Sat, Mar 15 Numbers 31—32

DAY 68 Sun, Mar 16 Numbers 33—34

DAY 69 Mon, Mar 17 Numbers 35—36

DAY 70 Tue, Mar 18 Deuteronomy 1—2



### Weekly Gatherings

30 MINUTES

30 MINUTES

30 MINUTES

Arrival, Fellowship, and Reading

Teaching

Table Discussion and Announcements

### Today's Reading

Numbers 23—25 Day 64 in Step Into Scripture



### Week 9: Division in the Camp

#### NUMBERS 10:11-13

"On the twentieth day of the second month of the second year, the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle of the covenant law. Then the Israelites set out from the Desert of Sinai and traveled from place to place until the cloud came to rest in the Desert of Paran. They set out, this first time, at the Lord's command through Moses."

# 1. Complaining

#### NUMBERS 11:1-2

Now the people complained about their hardships in the hearing of the Lord, and when he heard them his anger was aroused. Then fire from the Lord burned among them and consumed some of the outskirts of the camp. 2 When the people cried out to Moses, he prayed to the Lord and the fire died down.

#### NUMBERS 11:4-6

4 The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites started wailing and said, "If only we had meat to eat! 5 We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost—also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. 6 But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!"

# Discontentment fuels division.

### NUMBERS 11:11-15

11 He asked the Lord, "Why have you brought this trouble on your servant? What have I done to displease you that you put the burden of all these people on me? 12 Did I conceive all these people? Did I give them birth? Why do you tell me to carry them in my arms, as a nurse carries an infant, to the land you promised on oath to their ancestors? 13 Where can I get meat for all these people? They keep wailing to me, 'Give us meat to eat!' 14 I cannot carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me. 15 If this is how you are going to treat me, please go ahead and kill me—if I have found favor in your eyes—and do not let me face my own

### NUMBERS 11:11-12

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#### NUMBERS 11:13-15

13 Where can I get meat for all these people? They keep wailing to me, 'Give us meat to eat!' 14 I cannot carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me. 15 If this is how you are going to treat me, please go ahead and kill me—if I have found favor in your eyes—and do not let me face my own ruin."

### JOHN 6:5—7

5 When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" 6 He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. 7 Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

### NUMBERS 11:29

29 But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his Spirit on them!"

### IT'S NOT ABOUT ME.

# 2. Racism

### NUMBERS 12:1-2

Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite. 2 "Has the Lord spoken only through Moses?" they asked. "Hasn't he also spoken through us?" And the Lord heard this.

#### GALATIANS 3:28

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

## 3. Spreading Fear and Faithlessness

### NUMBERS 13:32-33

32 And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, "The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. 33 We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them."

### NUMBERS 14:1-2

That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. 2 All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, "If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness!

### We dare to believe.

We make audacious, faith-filled moves, knowing God is able.

### 4. Staging a Coup

### NUMBERS 14:4

4 And they said to each other, "We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt."

### NUMBERS 14:11-13

11 The Lord said to Moes, "How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in me, in spite of all the signs I have performed among them? 12 I will strike them down with a plague and destroy them, but I will make you into a nation greater and stronger than they." 13 Moses said to the Lord, "Then the Egyptians will hear about it! By your power you brought these people up from among them.

### NUMBERS 14:14-16

14 And they will tell the inhabitants of this land about it. They have already heard that you, Lord, are with these people and that you, Lord, have been seen face to face, that your cloud stays over them, and that you go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. 15 If you put all these people to death, leaving none alive, the nations who have heard this report about you will say, 16 'The Lord was not able to bring these people into the land he promised them on oath, so he slaughtered them in the wilderness.'

### NUMBERS 14:17-19

17 "Now may the Lord's strength be displayed, just as you have declared: 18 'The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.' 19 In accordance with your great love, forgive the sin of these people, just as you have pardoned them from the time they left Egypt until now."

# Rebellion against godly leadership is a rejection of God's direction.

# 5. Seeking to Avoid Discipline and Accountability

### NUMBERS 14:40-42

40 Early the next morning they set out for the highest point in the hill country, saying, "Now we are ready to go up to the land the Lord promised. Surely we have sinned!"41 But Moses said, "Why are you disobeying the Lord's command? This will not succeed! 42 Do not go up, because the Lord is not with you. You will be defeated by your enemies,

### False repentance

Mot a heart change, but an attempt to avoid consequences

### HEBREWS 3:15-17

15 As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion." 16 Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? 7 And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies perished in the wilderness?

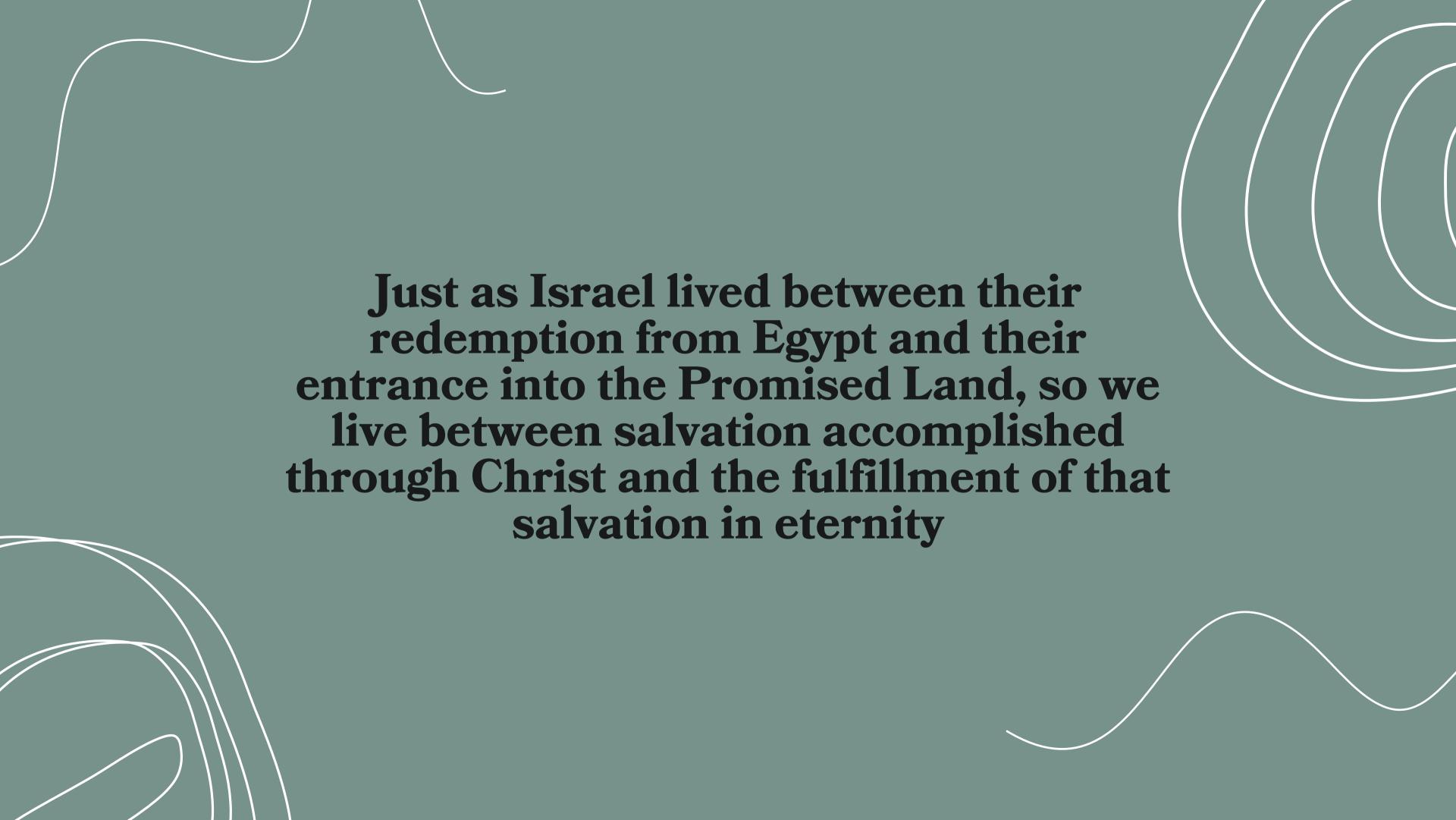
### HEBREWS 3:18-19

18 And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? 19 So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.

### 6. Sinning Intentionally

### NUMBERS 15:30-31

30 "But anyone who sins defiantly, whether native-born or foreigner, blasphemes the Lord and must be cut off from the people of Israel. 31 Because they have despised the Lord's word and broken his commands, they must surely be cut off; their guilt remains on them."



## Example #1: A man gathers sticks on the Sabbath.

#### NUMBERS 15:32-36

32 While the Israelites were in the wilderness, a man was found gathering wood on the Sabbath day. 33 Those who found him gathering wood brought him to Moses and Aaron and the whole assembly, 34 and they kept him in custody, because it was not clear what should be done to him. 35 Then the Lord said to Moses, "The man must die. The whole assembly must stone him outside the camp." 36 So the assembly took him outside the camp and stoned him to death, as the Lord commanded Moses.

### Example #2: Korah's rebellion.

#### NUMBERS 16:1-3

Korah son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and certain Reubenites—Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth became insolent[a] 2 and rose up against Moses. With them were 250 Israelite men, well-known community leaders who had been appointed members of the council. 3 They came as a group to oppose Moses and Aaron and said to them, "You have gone too far! The whole community is holy, every one of them, and the Lord is with them. Why then do you set yourselves above the Lord's assembly?"

#### **NUMBERS 15:39**

39 You will have these tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by chasing after the lusts of your own hearts and eyes.

### 7. Rejecting Order and Rebelling Against Authority

### NUMBERS 16:9-11

9 Isn't it enough for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the rest of the Israelite community and brought you near himself to do the work at the Lord's tabernacle and to stand before the community and minister to them? 10 He has brought you and all your fellow Levites near himself, but now you are trying to get the priesthood too. 11 It is against the Lord that you and all your followers have banded together. Who is Aaron that you should grumble against

### JUDE 5:5-6

5 Though you already know all this, I want to remind you that the Lord at one time delivered his people out of Egypt, but later destroyed those who did not believe. 6 And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their proper dwelling—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.

### JUDE 5:11

11 Woe to them! They have taken the way of Cain; they have rushed for profit into Balaam's error; they have been destroyed in Korah's rebellion.

#### NUMBERS 17:10

10 The Lord said to Moses, "Put back Aaron's staff in front of the ark of the covenant law, to be kept as a sign to the rebellious. This will put an end to their grumbling against me, so that they will not die."

### HEBREWS 13:17-18

17 Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

18 Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way.

## 8. For Leaders—Allowing the Assembly to Embitter You

#### NUMBERS 20:10-12

10 He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?" 11 Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff. Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank.

12 But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

#### PSALM 106:32-33

32 By the waters of Meribah they angered the Lord, and trouble came to Moses because of them;

33 for they rebelled against the Spirit of God, and rash words came from Moses' lips.

## He said we, not He!

## It's not about me.

# Leadership is about God's glory, not personal success.

#### Israel's wilderness journey teaches us:

- Trust in God's provision instead of complaining.
- Reject racism and embrace unity in Christ.
- Spread faith, not fear.
- Submit to godly leadership.
- · Repent sincerely, not just to avoid consequences.
- Take sin seriously.
- Respect God's order and authority.
- For leaders: Lead without bitterness.