

Exodus- Deuteronomy

Saved &
Set Apart

Lesson Ten

Numbers 20-36

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל

Hear, O Israel

יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ

the LORD our God

יְהוָה אֶחָד

the LORD is one

וְאַהַבְתָּ אֵת

and you shall love

יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ

Yahweh, your God

בְּכָל לִבְבְּךָ

with all your heart

וּבְכָל נַפְשְׁךָ

with all your soul

וּבְכָל מְאֹדְךָ

with all your strength



"Let the Word of Christ
dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16

Lesson Ten Day One

...Grace Group...

Recite Numbers 6:24-26

DAY	PAGE	Thinking Back to our last lesson...
1...	226	Share something you learned, loved, or were encouraged by from the previous message and/or Grace Group time.
2...	229-230	Share observations from "flyover" day
3...	231-232	#'s 3, 9, 10
4...	233-234	#'s 1, 6, 7, 8
5...		#'s 2, 4, 6
6...	<i>(page #s got off because of the handwritten pages)</i>	#'s 2, 6, 9, 13
7...		#'s 3, 5, 6, 8, 11 (share any/all as time permits)
8...		#'s 1, 7, 8
9...		#'s 2, 4, 7, 8
10...		Create & Share

There's a lot going on in your life and your heart this week.
Please let us come alongside and lift you up in prayer.

Share in the group prayer journal, with your Grace Group leader

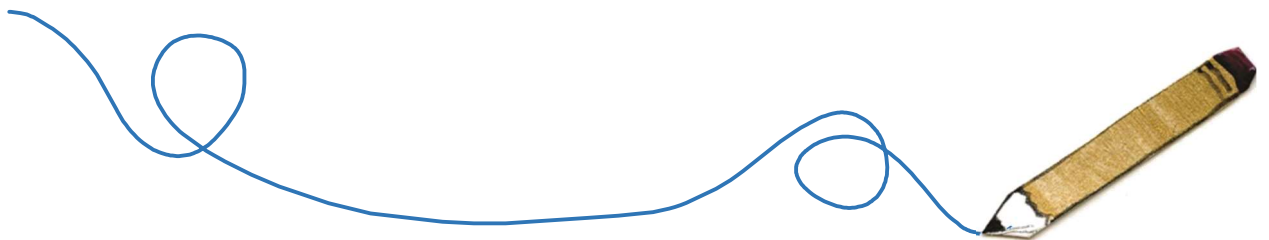
Pastor Jennifer is available to meet with you for pastoral care and prayer time as well.
Contact: 562.755.4964 / jennifergrichmond@gmail.com

You are loved and prayed for!



...Teaching...

Watch or listen to teaching sessions on the *Dwelling Richly* podcast (iTunes, Spotify, etc.) or [YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond](https://www.youtube.com/c/JenniferRichmond)



Lesson Ten Day One

... Day by Day...

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>My Dates</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Content</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>March 12 or 13</u>	1	Grace Groups & Teaching <u>READ</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Numbers 20-36 <u>WRITE</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Numbers 20 Psalm 106:1-5
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Numbers 21 Psalm 106:6-12
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Numbers 22:1-23:12 Psalm 106:13-18
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Numbers 23:13-24:25 Psalm 106:19-31
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Numbers 25-29 & 36 Psalm 106:32-36
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Numbers 30-32 Psalm 106:37-39
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	Numbers 33-35 Psalm 106:40-43
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Create & Share Psalm 106:44-48

...Memorize & Meditate...

Psalm 106:??

Select *any verse or verses* from this chapter to memorize. Write your verse each day and encourage a Grace Group friend to join you in memorizing the same verse.

...Write the Word...

Psalm 106

Write the Word pages are available on the Saved & Set Apart online study page. Or you can pick up copies at Bible study.

...Extra References...

[BibleGateway Link](#)

Miriam:

Exodus 2:4-7, 15:20-21; Numbers 12:1-15, 20:1

Aaron:

Exodus 4:14-30, 6:20-27, 17:10-12, 24:9-21, 32:1-35; Lev. 10:3; Num. 4:1-16, 6:22-27, 12:1-15, 16:46-50, 17:8-10

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...My Heart to Yours...

Maybe you're like me and you find yourself sometimes standing in the middle of a room walking in small circles, scratching your head as you try to remember why in the world you even walked into that room to begin with. No? Just me? Ok.
Well, allow me to share...

When this happens to me, I usually retrace my steps heading haltingly back to where I came from and hope that simple 12 or maybe 13 step journey from the kitchen through the hallway back to my bedroom will somehow jog the napping brain cells responsible for telling me what on earth I'm doing.

Sometimes it works.
Sometimes it doesn't.

If I can't remember why I came, maybe it wasn't important to begin with, right?
And while that's true - not too important - for simple life moments like looking for where you put your keys or getting the dog's leash ready for a walk, it's not true for the bigger picture...

Where am I going in life? What does this all mean? Why am I heading there to begin with?
These questions cannot be left unanswered at the threshold of a room.
You can't retrace steps to find the answer and if you don't you just move in hoping it will work out in another room. That's what an empty and chaotic life looks like.

Understanding our purpose. Knowing why we're here and having hope for where we're going is essential for our life. The answer, of course, is found in God's love and plan for our lives and that can, in turn, be found in His word and through His Son.

Numbers began, "in the wilderness" and ends "at the border." And, right at the border is when Moses reviews exactly where he has been and what has brought him and all the people to that place.

Similar to the reason I retrace my steps - to jog my memory and help me recall the purpose I had for entering the room, Moses sits and writes. On the command of YHWH, he retraces the steps of 40 years of wandering - not from hallway to kitchen but from slavery to freedom, from Egypt to Edom, from a land flowing with muddy bricks to milk and honey.

He marks the stages for the people from the moment of their salvation to the journey of being set apart. For what purpose?...to remind them of their past and assure them of their future.
The key to that future rests not in wondering if God will be faithful - He's proven over and again His faithfulness - the key will rest in their obedience and...

That's where we'll find ourselves also - will we set out mindful of where we've been and hopeful of where we're going, or will we, wandering with distracted forgetfulness bump through life from room to room wondering how we got there and unsure of the way to remember our purpose?

May we not be people who "soon forgot His works and did not wait for counsel" who "had no faith in His promise." Instead, let us never forget "God, our Savior who has done great things... wondrous works and awesome deeds." May we always be people who remember and sing, "blessed are they who observe justice and do righteousness...and let all the people say, "Amen!"

And may we together help each other to find our way (and our keys) and our faithfulness to our LORD.



Lesson Ten Day Two

Memorize & Meditate

...Dwell in the Word...

Pause & Pray

Memorize & Meditate

Simply Read: Numbers 20-36

Write the Word: Psalm 106:1-5

...Read & Engage...

⚠ CAUTION! ⚠ Be aware of your familiarity, prior "knowledge", or cliché understanding of any passages. Be thoughtful, and let the Word teach you anew and dwell in you richly.

1. **Growing in the Word:** What was a new or clarifying concept from your personal studies or the teaching session through Numbers 1-19?

2. **Dwelling Well:** Keep the "3 P's" in focus as you are dwelling in the Word. Ask, "How does this passage remind me of the Promises (looking back) God has made? How do I see God's Priorities (living now) for His people? What Plan (looking ahead) of God is unfolding?" *After reading today, come back and note one of each based on any passage:*

PROMISE


PRIORITY

PLAN

3. **Day 3 Reading:** Numbers 20 – **Note:** **locations, people**, reminders of past events that come to mind...
Who sends messengers?

4. **Day 4 Reading:** Numbers 21 – **Note:** anything surprising, repeated phrases, and as always, any questions you have
Who sends messengers?

Lesson Ten Day Two

 Chapters 22-24 are best read aloud. Try reading the passages aloud and, if possible, to a friend, family member, or your cat...or dog. Either way, give reading aloud a try. I think you'll find it really enjoyable and even help you understand it all better. You can also listen along as I read these passages on my [YouTube channel](#) or the [Dwelling Richly podcast](#).

5. **Day 5 Reading:** Numbers 22:1-23:12 - **Note:** "angel of the LORD" and "LORD" (highlight in **RED**)

Who sends messengers?

6. **Day 6 Reading:** Numbers 23:13-24:25 - **Note:** names of God (highlight in **BLUE**) and anything else that stands out.

7. **Day 7 Reading:** Numbers 25-29, 36 **Note:** key **people**, highest and lowest **numbers**, any side notes in the census

8. **Day 8 Reading:** Numbers 30-32 **Note:** Do you see any chiasms? Note key people and places

9. **Day 9 Reading:** Numbers 33-35 **Note:** Any challenging ideas?

10. **Day 10 Create & Share**

Look ahead to the Create & Share - Meet with your Grace Group and do this day together if possible.

Lesson Ten Day Three

Memorize & Meditate

...Dwell in the Word...

- Pause & Pray
- Memorize & Meditate: Write in ALL CAPS
- Simply Read: Numbers 20
- Write the Word: Psalm 106:6-12

...Read & Engage...

1. **Thinking Back.** Who are Miriam and Aaron? Use a concordance to help review or the references on page 253:

<u>MIRIAM</u>	<u>AARON</u>
Title/Role: _____	Title/Role: _____
Highlights/Lowlights: _____	Highlights/Lowlights: _____

2. **A to Zin and Back Again.** What happened the last time we were in Zin? Review Numbers 13:21ff and 14:32-35

Where have the people been? What (in general) have they been doing since their last time in Zin?

3. **Fast Forward and a Farewell.** It's been 40 years and God's condemnation of the first generation has come to an end...almost. Note details about the death of Miriam - where and when she died:

4. **Echoes of Massah at Meribah.** It's been 40 years and the people are thirsty again, and so they politely pray in patience to their faithful God, right? Hmmmm...Maybe not. Review and compare these two encounters:



<u>Rephidim</u> Exodus 17:1-7	<u>Kadesh</u> Numbers 20:2-11	<u>Grave Consequences. (Num. 20:12-13)</u>
The People Cry:		What is the consequences of Moses' actions? What was their sin? (See also Num. 20:24)
The LORD's Command:		
Moses' Actions:		
The LORD's Answer:		

Lesson Ten Day Three

5. **Hey, That's Harsh!** (Num 20:12) In what way might God's judgment seem harsh? How do you feel about this account?



6. **Reading Moses, Seeing Jesus.** Consider how Jesus ignites his disciple's imaginations as He points back to this moment at Meribah helping them see Him for who He truly is...and has been! What is Jesus saying about who He is and what He offers? How is He helping these 1st century people connect to their history, to Moses and to these accounts in the wilderness?



John 4:10-15

John 7:38

What does Paul say about the rock? 1 Corinthians 10:4

7. **Family Feud.** (Num. 20:14-21) Imagine your father is one of the messengers sent into Edom*. When he returns, he relates the entire experience to you and your family. Write about that here:

**Why refer to Edom as a "brother?" Read Gen.25, 32, and 36 for the complicated family relationship between Israel and Edom. We'll learn more about the Edomites later in Numbers and again in Deuteronomy.*

8. **Handing Down Up on Mt. Hor.** (Num. 20:22-29 and 33:38-39) Aaron's ministry was initiated in Egypt, anointed at Sinai, and will be "gathered to his people" (die) at Mt. Hor. Describe the scene and note the timing of Aaron's death.

9. **Reflect and Respond.** How does this passage encourage or maybe convict you in the way you respond to trials?



Lesson Ten Day Four

Memorize & Meditate

...Dwell in the Word...

- Pause & Pray
- Memorize & Meditate

- Simply Read: Numbers 21
- Write the Word: Psalm 106:13-18

...Read & Engage...

1. **Thinking Back.** (Numbers 13-14) How did the 1st generation respond to the enemy? How did God judge them?

2. **A Vow & A Victory.** (Num. 21:1-3) What do the Israelites face after mourning Aaron's death? How does God respond?

3. **Winning to Whining.** (Num 21:4-5) After their win over the Canaanites, where are the Israelites and what are they up to?

They are leaving _____ by way of _____ going around _____

21:4 they became... _____ Why?

21:5 so they _____ and _____ What do they accuse God and Moses of?

4. **Blessing over Bitterness.** What if instead of a bitter attitude toward God the people had blessed Him in this moment?



What if Israel had in mind the promises, priorities, and plans of YHWH and acted based on the **reality** and **truth** of His provision instead of a corrupted and manipulative version of their experience? Over each bitter write a blessed response:

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom....

But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses,

and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness?"

There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

5. **Reaping What you Sow.** (Num 21:6) What had Israel sowed? What are they now reaping?

Lesson Nine Day Four

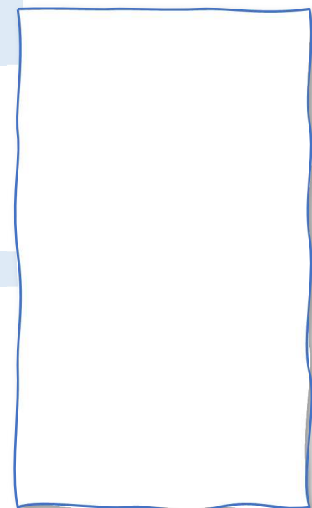
6. **From Calamity to Confession.** (Num.21:7) What do the people acknowledge and what do they ask for as they are under attack? What does Moses do?

7. **Seeing Salvation.** (Num 21:7-9) What exactly did Israel request Moses to pray?



Exactly how did God answer that prayer?

What was required of the people in order to live? Draw or describe here:



8. **Reading Moses, Seeing Jesus.** (John 3:14-15) How does **Jesus** interpret the account of Moses and the serpent?



9. **Songs of Life!** (Num. 21:10-20) What does God desire to give Israel? How do they respond?

10. **Sounds of Victory!** (Num. 21:10-35, Review: 9:15-10:10) Imagine you are one of the poets, proverb writers, or “ballad singers” (Num 21:27ESV) Describe the sights and the sounds of Israel setting out, setting up camp, and heading into battle!



Steadfast Love Endures Forever! (Num 20:21-35; Gen 15:8-16; Ps 136:17-22) How does Israel experience the fulfillment of God’s promise?

**YHWH's
Command & Promise**
Paraphrase Num. 21:34
in ALL CAPS!

 **..Dwelling Deeper...** How is Miriam’s song (Ex.15) prophetically fulfilled here?

11. **Saved & Set Apart.** Think about what the serpent-bitten people had to do to be cured and how Jesus interpreted that miracle cure. What does the venom and the cure have to do with you being saved & set apart today?



Lesson Ten Day Five

Memorize & Meditate

...Dwell in the Word...


- Pause & Pray
- Read Aloud:** Numbers 22:1-23:12
- Memorize & Meditate
- Write the Word:** Psalm 106:19-31

...Read & Engage...

1. **Knowing God.** Read each passage and note the promise, priority, and/or plan of God.

<u>Genesis 1:28, 3:15</u>	<u>Genesis 15:18-19</u>	<u>Exodus 3:17</u>	<u>Leviticus 26:9-12</u>	<u>Numbers 10:9, 29</u>

2. **Right View. Wrong Response.** (Num. 22:1-6) Who is Balak? What does he see and do? What does he get right & wrong?

 Balak is the...	Balak's View...	Balak's Response and request...
Balak is right about...but wrong about...		

3. **Sketchy Seer for Hire.** (Num. 22:7-21) Balak sends messengers to Balaam, fees in hand for his services as. Note details from the back and forth encounters in this passage - especially Balaam's intent and God's Words.

	<u>22:7-8</u>	<u>22:9-14</u>	<u>22:15-18</u>	<u>22:19-21</u>
Balak's Requests:				
Balaam's Intent:				
God's Words:				

4. **Jenny's Journal.** Draw/Describe the account of Balaam's "reckless way" from his jenny's* point of view. Emphasize her three actions (22-27), response (28-30), and what she would have observed/heard (31-35).



"Balaam and His Ass"
Rembrandt, 1626

*jenny is a term for a female donkey

Lesson Ten Day Five

With his wild ride behind him, Balaam, the doomed diviner, now stands with Balak and is caught between God's intention to bless and Balak's demand for a curse. Whose will win?

5. God's Words to Balaam.

22:12

22:20

22:35

What does Balaam tell King Balak he will do? (22:38)

6. Warming Up YHWH? (Num 22:39-23:3) How do Balaam and Balak prepare to hear from God? What are their motives?

Where do they go? What do they see? (22:41)

7. And now, a word from our Seer. (Numbers 23:7-10) Balaam's 1st Message:

23:7 What was Balaam requested to do?

23:8 How do Balaam's questions show he realizes the futility of King Balak's scheme?

 23:9-10a How does Balaam point to God's specific promise (Gen. 13:16, 28:14)?

23:10b What is Balaam's desire after looking down upon God's people?

8. Balak Balks. (Num 23:11-12) What does Balak exclaim? Is his complaint accurate? How so or not?

9. Saved & Set Apart. What does it say to you about God's bigger plan that He is working in the lives of a pagan king and a sketchy seer to confirm His intentions for His people?

LEARNING HEBREW

מַלְאָךְ

(mal-awk)

Num. 22:22

Meaning: ambassador, angel, messenger



...Dwelling Deeper...

The Hebrew word "malak" is used 213 times - 62 times it refers to a **theophany** - *theo*:God + *phaneia*:appearance

When was the last time in this study we read of the angel of the LORD?

Who experienced the first recorded theophany outside of Eden?

Lesson Ten Day Six

Memorize & Meditate

...Dwell in the Word...

Pause & Pray

Memorize & Meditate

Read Aloud: Numbers 23:13-24:25

Write the Word: Psalm 106:32-36

...Read & Engage...

1. **Thinking Back.** In Balaam's first oracle he reinforces truths about God's people and even echoes of the promise, priority, and plans of YHWH for Israel. Review Num. 22:7-10. Note reminders of the 3P's. HINT: There's at least one in each verse.

22:7 -

22:8 -

22:9 -

22:10

2. **A Man's Misguided Mission.** (Num. 23:13-18) What is King Balak's driving passion when it comes to the Israelites? Why is he so fired up? Consider Numbers 22:1-6

3. **Move the Curser, Delete the Blessings?** (Num 23:13-17, 25-30) Describe the scene as King Balak meets with Balaam again. How many altars, bulls, and rams have been set up and offered all together?

4. **Balaam's 2nd Message** (Numbers 23:18-24)



What is true about God? What has God not lied about? (Think: 3P's)

What has God accomplished already? How has "YHWH their God" been with them?

What animal is God compared to? _____ Is this fitting? Why or why not?

What animal are the people compared to? _____ Is this fitting? Why or why not?

Lesson Ten Day Six

5. Balaam's 3rd Message (Numbers 24:1-14)

How does Balaam describe himself now?

What names of God does he use? _____

How does Balaam describe the camp of Israel?

What does he see God doing in Israel's future conquests?

 What echoes of God's promises, priorities, and/or plans do you see in this oracle?

6. Balaam's 4th Message (Numbers 24:15-24)

What does Balaam hear, know, and see? (24:15-16)

What prophetic blessing does Balaam utter about Jacob/Israel? What does a scepter represent?

What does the future look like for these nations? Whose kingdom is mentioned first? _____ 

Moab

Sheth

Edom/Seir


Amalek

Kenites/Kain

Asshur and Eber -

 What echoes of God's promises, priorities, and/or plans do you see in this oracle?

7. Reading Moses, Seeing Jesus. Balaam's prophecies speak about, among other things: a seed, a star, and a scepter. How do these three all point to an offspring, a light, and a king that will one day come from Israel?

 Seed (Num. 24:7; Gen. 3:15; Matt 1:25; Galatians 4:4)

Star (Num. 24:17; Isaiah 60:1-3; 2 Peter 1:19; Revelation 22:16)

Scepter: (Num 24:17; Genesis 49:10; Psalm 60:7; Hebrews 1:8)

8. Saved & Set Apart. How can you take to heart the truths of the prophecies, what they teach you about God, and what you can and should look forward to in your Christian life?

Lesson Ten Day Seven

Memorize & Meditate

...Dwell in the Word...

- Pause & Pray
- Memorize & Meditate
- Simply Read: Numbers 25-29, 36
- Write the Word: Psalm 106:37-39


...Read & Engage...

1. **Thinking Back.** What did Balak, king of Moab, have planned for Israel? What was he motivated by? Consider Num. 22:1-6.

2. **The Sin in Shittim.** (Num. 25:1-5, 8b-9, 16-18) While Israel was encamped in Shittim what sin did they commit? Who does God hold responsible and what are the punishments?

3. **Faithful Phineas.** (Num. 25:6-15) What do you learn about Phineas' priorities in light of his actions? What do you learn about God's priorities in light of His response to Phineas' act? How does this inspire you to live out your faith today?


4. **Second Census and Preparing for Conquest.** (Numbers 26) What is the significance of this 2nd census? What are some key details that stand out to you? Why? HINT: note any narrative details that Moses includes. These are pretty interesting!
Total People of Israel: _____ Largest Tribe: _____ Smallest Tribe: _____

 **...Dwelling Deeper...** Since the 1st census, which tribes have increased? Which have decreased? Which tribe has lost the most? Why? What does this tell you about God's blessing on certain tribes?

5. **Sisters Seeking Justice.** (Num. 26:33, 27:1-11; 36:1-12) Imagine you are one of Zelophehad's daughters. Write about your experience bringing this issue to Moses' attention and how you must have felt about your father and how you now feel about the judgement that God, the father of Israel, has handed down. How does the jubilee impact their inheritance?

Lesson Ten Day Seven

6. **Painful Reminders and Promising Futures.** (Num. 27:12-23) Consider these questions as you dwell in this passage.

 Add one more question of your own then share your thoughts and responses:
 How am I seeing God's steadfast love and mercy? What does Moses' request reveal about his heart for the people and his love for God? What does Moses "job description" tell you about his vision for the people and their future?

My Question: _____

7. **Not Better for the Role.** (Num 27:18-23) YHWH directs Moses to the best man as his successor. Using Moses' requirements (27:16-17) and details from any of the following passages noting his background, skills, and accomplishments that make him the best man to succeed Moses. What, if any, corrections from Moses did Joshua experience?

Early Years

[Exodus 17:8-16, 24:13, 32:17, 33:11](#)

Later Experiences

[Numbers 11:30, 13:8-16, 13:17-14:38](#)

 **Dwelling Deeper...** What item, unique to priests, appears in this account? What was it used for?


8. **Sacred People, Sacred Land, Sacred Times.** (Numbers 26-29) Review these chapters and note how each is a reminder for the new generation of God saving and setting them apart to be sacred as a people, in a land, and with their time.

Note: Numbers 28-29 reviews God's Moadim (appointed times) emphasizing the offerings to be given on each. We covered this in detail in Leviticus 23. Review Lesson 8 and the Appointed Times chart for complete details (pgs 206-207).

Sacred People
[Numbers 26](#)

Sacred Land
[Numbers 27](#)

Sacred Times
[Numbers 28-29](#)

 **Dwelling Deeper...** How many animals would have been offered every year for just the required moadim?

9. **Saved & Set Apart.** How is Moses' testimony a reminder to you for how you serve and lead in your church family today?



Lesson Ten Day Eight

Memorize & Meditate

...Dwell in the Word...

- Pause & Pray
- Memorize & Meditate
- Simply Read: Numbers 30-32
- Write the Word: Psalm 106:40-43

...Read & Engage...

1. **Thinking Back.** Did you know that out of the 613 commands in the Torah, 22 are about vows? 16 in Leviticus, 5 in Numbers, and 1 in Deuteronomy. What have you learned about vows and their place with God's people? [Consider the following:](#)

Leviticus 27:1-8ff

Numbers 6:2-21

Numbers 21:1-3

2. **Structure for Vows.** (Num 30) *Hey, Look! This passage is structured as a ***chiasm!*** Highlight with color in your Bible to help you view it. What are YHWH's laws concerning vows for...

...men? (v1-2)

...father/daughter? (v3-5)

...husband/wife's (premarital)? (v6-8)

...a widow or divorcee? (v9)

...husband/wife (post-marriage)? (v10-12)

...husband/wife? (v13-15)

...husbands/fathers (v16)

*Chiasm - presenting ideas then repeated the ideas in reverse order. Recall that the entire book of Leviticus has a chiastic structure all pointing to the Day of Atonement (Ritual>Priests>Purity>Day of Atonement<Purity<Priests<Ritual) I encourage you to think about this literary device as you study. Once you start looking, you'll begin to see them everywhere!

3. **Applying the Torah for Vows.** How is YHWH providing the best for His people by requiring these laws to govern vows?

 How are women especially shown protection in light of the patriarchal society of the time?

Lesson Ten Day Eight

4. Unfinished Business (Numbers 31)

1) What business does YHWH command Israel to finish? When had He first commanded this? (Num. 25:16-18)

2) What was Balaam's role in the Israel's sin at Peor?

3) How is the incident with Balak/Balaam seen through the lens of Scripture? *What lesson are we to learn?

 Micah 6:5*

2 Peter 2:15

Jude 1:11

Revelation 2:14

4) Why is Moses angry with the triumphant warriors' return? (31:12-16) Why is his command just? (31:17-18)

5. Home on the Range. (Num. 32)

1) What plan do the tribes of Reuben and Gad present to Moses? What is their tone as they engage with Moses?

2) How does Moses interpret their request? How does he characterize them? What does he seem to assume about their plan? What two points does he state twice?

3) How does Moses ultimately respond? What does he ensure they'll agree to do? What grave warning does he give them?

4) Why include a chapter with the background detail on where certain tribes ended up living? Why not note succinctly, "...the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh lived east of the Jordan after a brief, albeit emotional negotiation with Moses."

5) What do you think about their request? Was it selfish and presumptuous? bold and resourceful? or?...


Lesson Ten Day Nine

Memorize & Meditate

...Dwell in the Word...

- Pause & Pray:** Pray for you Grace Group
- Memorize & Meditate:** Write with your non-dominant hand
- Simply Read:** Numbers 33-35
- Write the Word:** Psalm 106:44-48

...Read & Engage...

-  1. **Thinking Back.** (Numbers 33) This entire chapter is an exercise in "Thinking Back." Reviewing the past is helpful as we consider our future...and that is the exact place God's people are now. They have "been to the mountaintop" and they are about ready to culminate a 40 year - FORTY YEAR - journey! Imagine yourself in this moment. It's been 40 years of wandering for your beloved leaders: Moses, Caleb, Joshua, and Eleazar - but you are part of the younger 2nd generation - your parents have died, your grandparents and great-grandparents...perhaps you never even knew them. And now you're here at the boundaries of the land. You look up and see the man himself, Moses who is quietly writing "down their starting places, stage by stage, by command of the LORD..." (Num. 33:2) Beginning with Rameses and ending at the plains of Moab, write your thoughts as you imagine watching Moses quietly recording the stages of this incredible and miraculous journey. Include key location names from the beginning, middle, and end point of the journey (Num. 33:1-49).

2. **You Shall...or else.** (Num. 33:50-56) Summarize the commands and final *ominous* warning YHWH tells Moses to speak:

3. **A Bleak Future.** As much as we would hope at this point the people will succeed in everything God commands, we know that their failure is infamous and devastating. From Psalm 106, write details about what ends up happening:

Lesson Ten Day Nine

4. **Borders and Belief.** (Num. 34) As their tribal chief/prince was announced and the land borders described write how you imagine this would have impacted the people as they anticipate their life to come:

5. **Special Cities...for Levites.** (Num 35:1-8) Recall that the Levites would not receive land because they are the LORD's special inheritance. What does God provide for them and their families? How might this help keep religious unity in the nation?

6. **Six Special Cities...for Refuge.** (Num 35:9-34) How does YHWH provide for and anticipate the awful circumstances described in this passage? What limits are placed on the exile of the manslayer? What does God's plan and provision for special cities tell you about His mercy and justice?

7. **Saved & Set Apart.** If God can plan for refuge for such a devastating sin in the Old Covenant, how much more can He provide for refuge in the New? Answer - so. much. more! Think about how the cities of refuge ultimately point to Christ and how you can say with the Psalmist in spite of our sin, "that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise!" (Psalm 106:47)

...Create & Share...

Taking the Long Way.

It's one thing to take the scenic route when we're looking for a fun adventure, it's another altogether to have to take the long way because we failed to read the directions, got lost on the way, or another mishap altered our plans.

Worse still is a journey like Israel's whose trip into the Promised Land would have taken - at most - about two weeks.

But, because of their stubbornness and sin, fourteen days took forty years.

As we end Numbers let's begin a journey.

A simple journey - not 40 years - but
40 minutes.

Write...

10 moments when God has saved/protected you

10 sins God has forgiven

10 ways you've seen His love in your life

10 relationships & experiences He has used to shape you.

Take these 40 moments with you as you...

Walk...

...in the park, around the block, the beach, a trail...

feet on the ground, in the grass, in the sand or the dust,

feeling the path beneath you and the sun above

somewhere that you can move and reflect for

40 minutes

1 minute for each year the Israelites wandered and...

Reflect...

Remember that as God provided for His people in their wilderness wandering - in spite of themselves - He is providing for you today.

40 minutes

40 moments

40 opportunities to

reflect and be thankful...humble...hopeful.

Share...

Invite a friend to join you...share in your journey...share the reflections and the moments and the praise. Laugh together, rejoice together, point each other to the LORD together, remember together.

Use the template provided or create your own.

As always, please share.

We will all be blessed and encouraged.

My heart to yours...

I know it's not always possible to walk.

You might be physically limited - ask someone to help.

Weather might not cooperate - walk in a mall or at your church.

I am praying that you'll enter into this Create & Share with the spirit in which I've written it - to provide a way for you to dwell differently in His Word and let His Word, as always, dwell in you.

