

Bible Stories for Adults

God Leads His People to the Promised Land

Numbers

Opening

Gathering: Tell of a time when God's way proved to be better than your way.

Today's Focus: God wants us to follow His perfect way and leads us by His Word, His Spirit and His church.

Key Verses: *Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.* John 3:14-15

Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the [way] of the Lord.
Psalm 119:1

Opening Prayer

Lesson

At Mount Sinai (*Numbers 1-10*)

What was God's basic message for the Israelites on Mount Sinai?

Exodus 19:3-6

What three types of Law did God give Israel at Mount Sinai?

Exodus 20

Exodus 21-23

Exodus 24-40, Lev., Numbers 1-9, Deut.

How long had Israel traveled when they reached Mount Sinai?

Exodus 19:1

How long did Israel stay at Sinai?

Numbers 10:11

How did Israel know it was time to go and where to stop?

Numbers 10:12-13

Had God's miraculous signs so far made Israel TRUST IN THE LORD?

Numbers 11:1-3

Miriam & Aaron (*Numbers 12*)

Who were Miriam and Aaron?

Numbers 26:59

Exodus 15:20

Leviticus 8:1-3, 12

What prompted Miriam & Aaron to oppose Moses and what did they claim?

Numbers 12:1-2

Was this a result of Moses being arrogant because of his position?

Numbers 12:3

How did God respond to Miriam and Aaron's opposition?

Numbers 12:4-9

How did God punish this rejection of His selection?

Numbers 12:10-12

How did Moses and God respond to Aaron's request?

Numbers 12:13-15

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Spies Sent to Canaan (*Numbers 13-14*)

What did God command when Israel reached Kadesh (southern edge of Canaan)?
Numbers 13:1-3

How far did the spies travel and how long were they gone?
Numbers 13:21, 25 (21-25)

What kind of report did the spies give upon their return?
Numbers 13:26-28

Were the spies ready for God to lead them into the Promised Land?
Numbers 13:31-33

How did the Israelites respond to this report?
Numbers 14:1-4

Strike 2 (*Numbers 14:5-38*)

Did any of the spies disagree with the others and trust God to lead them?
Numbers 14:5-9

Did Joshua and Caleb's speech turn the Israelites back to God?
Numbers 14:10

What was God's punishment for this lack of faith?
Numbers 14:26-30, 33-34

What was God's punishment for the spies who had said not to go?
Numbers 14:37-38

Strike 3 (*Numbers 14:39-45*)

Did Israel recognize their sin? How did they plan to correct their evil?
Numbers 14:39-40

Did Moses agree with their plan?
Numbers 14:41-42

Did Israel carry out their plan?
Numbers 14:44-45

The Korah Rebellion (*Numbers 16*)

What did the 250 men with Korah say about Moses' leadership?
Numbers 16:2-3

How did Moses respond to this rebellion?
Numbers 16:4-5, 28-30

How did God show His support for Moses and Aaron?
Numbers 16:31-33, 35

Did the Israelites then trust God and accept Moses & Aaron?
Numbers 16:41

How did God respond?
Numbers 16:43-45

How did Moses and Aaron turn God's wrath from the people?
Numbers 16:46-49

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Aaron's Staff (*Numbers 17*)

- What was God's plan to clarify His choice of leaders?
Numbers 17:1-5
- Which staff sprouted?
Numbers 17:8-9

Water From the Rock - The Sequel (*Numbers 20:1-6*)

- What happened at the beginning of the Israelite's 40th year in the wilderness?
Numbers 20:1
- After 40 years, had the people finally stopped grumbling and put their trust in God, Moses & Aaron?
Numbers 20:2 (2-5)
- What had happened in a similar situation at the beginning of their wanderings?
Exodus 17:3, 5-6

Speak Softly Without a Big Stick (*Numbers 20:7-13, 22-29*)

- How did God solve the water crisis differently this time?
Numbers 20:7-8
- Did Moses follow God's instructions?
Numbers 20:10-11
- How did God punish Moses for disobeying Him?
Numbers 20:12
- What happened in the middle of their 40th year?
Numbers 20:23-26

The Bronze Snake (*Numbers 21*)

- Did the people finally stop grumbling and Trust God?
Numbers 21:4-5
- How did God punish Israel for their lack of faith?
Numbers 21:6-7
- How did God solve this crisis when the people confessed?
Numbers 21:8-9
- How does God solve our crisis of death when we confess?
John 3:14-15
- What are some similarities between the bronze snake and Christ's death?
 - Died from poisonous snake bite
 - Bronze snake lifted on a pole
 - Bronze snake looked like real snake
 - Israel looked to snake in faith
 - Snake saved Israelites from death

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Passing Through Edom (*Numbers 20:14-21*)

How did Israel decide it was time to head north?

Deuteronomy 2:1-3

Why did God protect the Edomites from conquest by the Israelites?

Deuteronomy 2:4-5

How did Edom respond to Israel's request to pass thru on the King's Highway?

Numbers 20:14, 17-18, 21 (14-21)

God Protects Moab and Ammon (*Numbers 21*)

Why did God protect the Moabites from conquest by the Israelites?

Deuteronomy 2:9

Why did God protect the Ammonites from conquest by the Israelites?

Deuteronomy 2:19

How long had passed when Israel reached Moab (Zered Brook)?

Deuteronomy 2:14-15

Moses Dies (*Deuteronomy 34*)

What did God need to take care of before Moses died?

Deuteronomy 31:14

Where did God bring Moses to die and why?

Deuteronomy 34:1-5

Did the Israelites accept Joshua as their new leader?

Deuteronomy 34:9

How exceptional was Moses?

Deuteronomy 34:10-12

Closing Prayer

Response

1. When have I felt jealous of someone who seemed to be more important than me?
(*Numbers 12; Psalm 106:16-18; Acts 7:9; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; 12:12-30*)
2. When have I trusted God that human wisdom directed me otherwise?
(*Numbers 13:26-14:9; Isaiah 29:14; Jeremiah 8:8-9; Mark 10:27; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; 3:18-20*)
3. In what ways do I respect and support those God has chosen to lead me?
(*Numbers 12:6-8; 16:1-17:13; 2 Cor. 11; 1 Thess. 5:12-13; 1 Timothy 5:17-18; Hebrews 13:17*)
4. Which of the things I did yesterday went my way and which were God's way?
(*Numbers 20:1-12; Proverbs 16:1-9; Isaiah 55:8-9; Hosea 14:9; Micah 4:12*)
5. Who have I recently pointed to the cross that saves those dying from poisonous sin?
(*Numbers 21:4-9; John 1:29-46; 3:14-16; 12:32; Galatians 6:14-15*)