



## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Every group session consists of three main phases: **Connect**, **Learn**, and **Apply**. Each session of this guide is broken down into each of the phases to make it easier for you to facilitate discussion with your group.

The **Connect** phase of the group is usually between 5-15 minutes and it is where you take the time to connect relationally with the people in your group. Whether that be through an icebreaker or just a check-in on how everyone is doing in the group.

The **Learn** phase is when the group dives into discussion about a specific topic. This is usually the bulk of the group meeting and lasts between 30-45 minutes. Whether it be a piece of scripture or video. With this study you will be discussing video sessions from Pastor Heath. All video sessions can be found on the Pinnacle Church App.

The **Apply** phase is when you as a group discuss how you will take what you've learned in this session and apply it to your actual lives. This is the best feature of growth group time as this is where life change can really begin to take place. This phase is also where you come along side and pray for one another and how you can apply what you're learning to your various contexts.

If you have any questions about how to use this study make sure to reach out to your growth group coach.



### Week 3

**Text:** Numbers 20:1-13

**Big Idea of the Message:** We might think that right outcomes are most important, but God would rather us enjoy a relationship with him.

**Next Step:** To approach the Bible as an invitation into a relationship with God rather than merely an instruction book.

#### Connect:

- **ASK:** When you play group games, are you the rule follower or the one who enjoys bending the rules?
- **SAY:** People tend to approach life (and games) in one of two ways: rules are meant to be followed, or rules are mere suggestions. When it comes to how we view God and his Word, similar variations exist. The “Life Over God” position considers the Bible a rule book, which some love to follow and others don’t. But did God intend for his Word to serve as a list of dos and don’ts? Skye Jethani explores why “Life Over God” is so appealing yet flawed in this session.

#### Learn:

Take some time to watch this week’s video found on the Right Now Media at: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/player/video/770977?session=790727>

Or on the Pinnacle Church App at: <https://pinnaclechurch.subspla.sh/8t4tk52>

Then discuss the following:

#### Discussion Topics and Questions:

Have someone read Numbers 20:1-13

1. On the first occasion when water came from a rock in Exodus 17, God told Moses to strike the rock. But this second time, in Numbers, he told him merely to speak to the rock. Yet Moses took his staff and struck it twice, disobeying God’s command. Skye suggested that Moses relied on the tool God gave him rather than God himself. What are some ways you’ve been guilty of the same sin as Moses, trusting “what works” over what God commanded? What motivated you to ignore God’s leading, or not even consult him, as you moved forward to accomplish something for him?
2. Moses’s disobedience still worked out for the people—God made water spring from the rock anyway. As far as the people knew, Moses and God were working in tandem like they always did. As Skye said, “Moses was a hero. His ministry was relevant and powerful and effective. It worked.” To what extent do you value being relevant or effective over being obedient to God? What does it look like to focus on seeking God’s purpose over your own?

3. In what ways is it easier to trust what you see and experience tangibly instead of depending on God? IN what circumstances do you tend to rely on reason over faith?
4. In what ways can you remember trusting a past pattern of success instead of depending on God? How did it work out?
5. What has your experience been in being taught how to approach the Bible? Have you normally approached the Bible as a manual for good living? What's the issue with seeing the Bible just as in instruction manual?

### **Application**

6. What can you do to gain a deeper understanding of God—his character, his desires, his motivations? How do you understand the difference between knowing facts about him and knowing him personally?
7. How, if at all, do you need to adjust your approach of the Bible?

### **Closing:**

Take time to ask if there are any requests the group can pray for this week.

### **Pray**

Spend some time in prayer asking God to reveal any tendencies you have to live “over God.”