



Dear Champion Fellowship parents,

We are so thankful for your participation in the Champion Fellowship family. We want you to know how much we enjoy your children and the opportunity to partner with you to train them in the way of the LORD. One of our goals this year is to strengthen our partnership with you in this task. We have recognized that the most effective way for a child to learn the Bible and how to live by it is to learn it at home from parents – and we believe the LORD designed it this way. So, to help you do this with your children, we intend to provide you with valuable resources each week that will help you reinforce what your child is learning at church.

Every Sunday following services, we will send you the basic teaching outline from the morning's lesson along with several questions and answers that you can practice with your kids to help them learn and retain the story of the Bible. We will also attach our Teacher Tips video that our classroom teachers watch to prepare for the lesson. This will help you to better understand the content so you can feel more confident discussing it with your children.

We hope that this is a blessing to you as we steadily take steps from partnership toward ownership in our family ministry. Our dream is to see parents as the primary disciple-makers in their kids' lives and this is a big step in that direction. Please don't hesitate to provide any feedback on how we might better prepare you to do this important job.

In Christ,
Alex Wolfe
Family Pastor



The LORD is among His covenant people

Lesson Summary

Over the last few weeks, we watched as the LORD is raising up Israel to become the great nation the LORD promised they would be so that they can be His representatives to the nations. In Exodus, we saw God multiply Israel greatly and give them a government through the Law. In this Law they learned that they are to continually walk by faith in the true Image-Bearer before the nations. If they do this, the LORD will make them a beacon of light with a foretaste of the coming blessing in their land. However, if they reject the LORD and the true Image-Bearer, the LORD will discipline them by kicking them out of the land and cursing them until they return to Him alone. Now, with all this in place, Israel is finally ready to head to the promised land - the land of Canaan (just a 3 day journey). In order to get Israel ready for their conquest of the land of Canaan, the LORD organizes the nation into camps by tribes (the tribes are the 12 families descending from the 12 sons of Jacob) and gives specific roles to each tribe. Judah is the leader since the true Image-Bearer will come through that tribe. The Levites are in charge of the portable tabernacle. When the LORD's presence moves they are to follow Him and when He rests they are to rest. The LORD's presence among them is what will ultimately give them victory over the people inhabiting their land.

Story of the Bible Chart

We are still in the "looking for the Messiah" part of the chart. Today, we see the presence of the LORD leading Israel through the wilderness to the land in the form of a pillar of smoke and fire. Ultimately, the Messiah will be the LORD's presence among the people who will one day lead them and guide them to blessing in the land.

Story of the Bible Chart picture of the day:



THIS WEEK

LAST WEEK

NEXT WEEK



Blessings and Curses
Leviticus 26

Preparing to Take the Land
Numbers 1-10

Israel's failure to trust the LORD
Numbers 11-14



LESSON INTRO

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO MAKE A NATION?

A nation needs:

- Lots of people
- Some form of government
- Land

In Genesis, God promised to make Abraham into a great nation - a special nation through whom all of the nations of the earth would receive access to the true Image-Bearer and therefore eternal life. The promise was passed down to Isaac and Jacob (renamed Israel), and finally to Jacob's 12 sons. However, by the end of Genesis, they were just a large family in Egypt, not a great nation in the land of Canaan.

By the end of Exodus/Leviticus, God now has multiplied Israel greatly, delivered them out of Egypt, and has given the nation a government - God appointed Israel leaders and judges and gave them the Law and sacrifices to instruct them to accomplish their purpose of representing the LORD to the nations as a kingdom of priests. So, two of the three needs have been met...

Now what?

It's time to go to the land!

Lesson Outline

The LORD is among His covenant people

LESSON OUTLINE NUMBERS 1-10



In Numbers 1-10, the LORD and Moses prepare Israel to move toward Canaan, the land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

1. First, the LORD instructs Moses to sort the people by their tribes (the 12 tribes that grew from the 12 sons of Jacob) and then counts each tribe so that they can get their share of the land. This is where they will live together by their tribes
2. Second, the people are organized into camps that are set up for travel through the wilderness to the land, led by the tribe of Judah (the tribe who will bring forth the true Image-Bearer/King).
3. Third, the Levites (the sons of Levi who have been set apart to the LORD as priests to the nations of Israel) are reminded/instructed of their duty to administer the sacrifices at the Tabernacle.
 - a. They also had the responsibility of tearing it down for travel and setting it back up whenever they stopped.
4. Fourth, the nations is reminded that they are to be set apart (holy) from the other nations. This was so that they didn't intermix with the Gentiles in the land of Canaan where they were heading. The LORD said that if they intermix, Israel will surely join them in going after the fake gods of the nations. Therefore, they are to remain separate by keeping the camp free from defilement, honoring the sacrifices, and keeping the Passover, among other things.

Now the nation is sorted, counted, organized, instructed, and ready to follow the LORD to their promised land so that they can become a great nation.

- ❖ The LORD, appearing as a pillar of smoke by day and a pillar of fire by night, was among the people and would move to lead Israel through the wilderness.
 - When the LORD would move, the people would move.
 - When the LORD would rest, the people would rest.
 - As long as the LORD was leading them, they would have victory over the inhabitants of the land they were going in to possess.

"Thus they set out from the mount of the LORD three days' journey, with the ark of the covenant of the LORD journeying in front of them for the three days, to seek out a resting place for them. The cloud of the LORD was over them by day when they set out from the camp. Then it came about when the ark set out that Moses said, "Rise up, O LORD! And let Your enemies be scattered, And let those who hate You flee before You." When it came to rest, he said, "Return, O LORD, To the myriad thousands of Israel." (Numbers 10:33-36)



Lesson Questions

Use these questions to teach or to review this week's lesson.

Review the story (all ages):

1. **What three things are needed to form a nation?**
 - a. Lots of people
 - b. A government
 - c. Land
2. **Which part of the story tell us about Israel's population growth?**

The Book of Exodus
3. **Which part of the story tell us about Israel's government being formed?**

The Book of Exodus and the Book of Leviticus
4. **Which part of the story tells us that Israel has been promised a land for their nation?**

God promises this land to Abraham in the Book of Genesis
5. **Why is this part of the story called the Book of Numbers?**

All the people are counted so that they know how big they have grown.

Ages 3-5

1. **In the story what happens to Jacob's 12 sons?**

Each son's family grows and grows into a tribe with many, many people and together the 12 Tribes or families make up the nation of Israel.
2. **What is special about the Tribe made of Levi's sons?**

They become the priests for all their brothers.
3. **What are the sons of Levi, the priests, called?**

Levites.
4. **What part of the move to the land are the Levites in charge of?**

Moving God's special tent, the Tabernacle.
5. **How does God lead Israel to their land?**

In the daytime God comes in a pillar of smoke and in the nighttime, God comes in a pillar of fire to lead Israel to their land.

Grades 1-6

1. **If Israel has the people, the government, and the promise of the land, what do you think the next part of the story, the book of Numbers might be about?**

Israel going to live in the land that God promised.
2. **The Book of Numbers begins with Israel getting ready to go to their promised land. How do they get ready?**
 - a. They are organized by their families or tribes- remember the twelve sons of Jacob grow into the 12 Tribes of Israel which all together make up the nation of Israel.
 - b. Each tribe is counted. That is where the Book of Numbers gets its name.
 - c. The Levites (those from the family of Jacob's son Levi who are set apart as the Priests for the nation) learn how to transport the Tabernacle, the special tent where the LORD's presence dwells.
3. **What is the special way God leads Israel toward their land so that they know where to go, when to travel, and when to rest?**

God appears in a pillar of smoke during the day and a pillar of fire at night. Whenever the pillar moves, Israel is to follow. Whenever the pillar stops, Israel is to stop and rest.