

Numbers 10-14

Main Idea: The way we want guidance and the way it is offered to us by our Heavenly Father are usually incongruent.

Are We There Yet?

In ch.6 of The Story God's nation packs up and heads on a road trip that will eventually lead them to the Promised Land. If you can imagine, it's like Moses is the dad and there are about 2 or 3 million kids in the back seat! This road trip, however, will not proceed as God intended. The people would resist and rebel many times.

Thanks, but No Thanks

God wants to guide us, but we prefer a road map, the latest traffic reports, the weather forecast, and points of interest along the way. That way we really don't need to trust God. He has answered our pertinent questions; now we can manage without Him. But God wants us to trust Him (Remember? Obey Me because you trust Me). God will guide us. When we need to turn right, He will tell us. If we need to stop, He will tell us that too.

1. 3 Sources of Conflict (Numbers 11-12)

Excitement and anticipation quickly gave way to grumbling and discontentment. The tunnel vision of lower-story-living took over. In Numbers 11 we see 3 primary sources for the people's grumbling:

- ❑ **Hardship – vv.1-3.** Life on the road was difficult. No settling down. No putting down roots.
- ❑ **Manna and More Manna – vv.4-35.** While God was supplying their needs, the people wanted variety in their diet. Monotony and routine can spoil a blessed life.
- ❑ **Jealousy and Insubordination – ch.12.** Moses' own brother and sister questioned his authority. People-problems and drama dot the landscape of our lives. It can be grueling and wearisome.

2. Short-term Memory Loss (Numbers 11:5)

Human nature is on display in all its glory in the Book of Numbers. There would be at least 10 outbreaks of rebellion against God before their journey was complete. The text reveals the people wanted stable living. They wanted variety in their diet. They wanted water. What they really wanted was control.

3. The Point of No Return (Numbers 13-14)

God tells Moses to send some men into Canaan; to explore the land and report back to the people. This is a reconnaissance mission. 10 of the 12 spies would give an extremely negative report, but Joshua and Caleb trusted God's guidance. Their report was positive. The people do not know it, but this is the beginning of their end...

40 Long Years (Numbers 15-36)

The remaining chapters in *Numbers* tell the story of the peoples' stiff-necked self-sovereignty and the price they would pay for their unbelief. The entire first generation would not enter the Promise Land. They would wander around in circles for 40 long years – one year for every day the spies spent in reconnaissance.

Family Night Big idea – Read Numbers 13:1-33

- **Elementary School** – Ask, "How many spies did Moses send into the Promised Land? What kind of fruit did the men bring back to Moses? What did 10 spies tell Moses? What did Caleb say to Moses?"
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, "What caused the 10 spies to be afraid? What is it like to be in the minority standing up for what is right? Caleb trusted God; why is this so difficult for us? How do we know that God is with us?"

Prayer: "Heavenly Father, our family wants You to guide us. Help us be obedient as we follow. Amen."

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: Meet on Wednesday July 30th at 6:30.

Gravity: No Gravity. Will resume in August.

Today's Songs

Praise You Anywhere.....Phil Wickham

Firm Foundation.....Maverick City Music

Battle Belongs.....Phil Wickham

KidsJAM Bible Trivia Night

Kids are playing Bible Trivia on Wednesday, August 13, from 6-7pm. Sign up in KidsJAM.

Promotion Sunday

On Aug. 3rd the following will be promoted in both services:

- Two Year Olds go from Nursery to Beginner
- Children who start Pre-K will go from Beginners to KidsJAM
- Kids who start 6th Grade will go from KidsJAM to Velocity
(We follow the same calendar as the public school system so cutoff birthday is September 1st.)

Splash in the Boro

The church will rent Splash on Sunday evening, August 3rd, from 6-8pm. Cost is \$10 per person or \$30 per family. **Cash at the Gate Only.** Bring money for the Snack Shack!