

## The Waters of Meribah Numbers 20

Key Scripture: Numbers 20:12

But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not trust me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them.”

Main Principle:

The Word of God is holy and given to us for our good and God’s glory.

Focus Points:

- Obeying the Word of God will bring great blessings.
- Disobeying the Word of God will always has consequences.
- God is compassionate and loving and will always forgive our sin, but there will still be consequences for our sin.
- Trust and believe in the promises of God.

Group Questions:

1. Why did Moses have to go up to Mt. Sinai a second time to receive the Ten Commandments?  
Answer: The Israelite people grew impatient waiting for Moses to come back and sinned by creating a golden calf to worship. When Moses saw the rebellion of the people, he threw the first tablets down and they broke into many pieces. God called him up a second time, wrote them again on two new tablets, and Moses brought them down to the people.
2. When Moses brought the Ten Commandments down from Mt. Sinai, did this stop them from grumbling and complaining while traveling in the desert to a new land that God had chosen for them?  
Answer: No. They continued to complain to Moses, which only brought distress upon him. This showed Moses that the Israelites said that they believed and trusted in God, but their actions showed they did not. They still grumbled and complained every day.

3. What did God tell Moses to do in order to bring water to the people of Israel? What mistake did Moses make?

Answer: He told Moses to go to a large rock and SPEAK to it and water would pour out for all the people and the animals. But because Moses was so angry and frustrated at the Israelites for their rebellious hearts, he STRUCK the rock and the water poured out.

4. What was the consequence of Moses' disobedience?

Answer: God told Moses that since he struck the rock instead of speaking to it like he had commanded, now Moses and Aaron would not be allowed to go into the Promised Land.