

Today:

November 3, 2013

Scripture Focus: Numbers 14:1-25

The whole community was in an uproar, wailing all night long. All the People of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The entire community was in on it: “Why didn’t we die in Egypt? Or in this wilderness? Why has God brought us to this country to kill us? Our wives and children are about to become plunder. Why don’t we just head back to Egypt? And right now!”

Moses and Aaron fell on their faces in front of the entire community, gathered in emergency session. Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, members of the scouting party, ripped their clothes and addressed the assembled People of Israel: “The land we walked through and scouted out is a very good land—very good indeed. If God is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land that flows, as they say, with milk and honey. And he’ll give it to us.

But, up in arms now, the entire community was talking of hurling stones at them. Just then the bright Glory of God appeared at the Tent of Meeting. Every Israelite saw it. God said to Moses, “How long will these people treat me like dirt? How long refuse to trust me? And with all these signs I’ve done among them! I’ve had enough—I’m going to hit them with a plague and kill them. But I’ll make you into a nation bigger and stronger than they ever were.”

*But Moses said to God, “The Egyptians are going to hear about this! You delivered this people from Egypt with a great show of strength, and now this? The Egyptians will tell everyone. If you kill this entire people in one stroke, all the nations that have heard what has been going on will say, ‘Since God couldn’t get these people into the land which he had promised to give them, he slaughtered them out in the wilderness.’ **“Please forgive the wrongdoing of this people** out of the extravagance of your loyal love just as all along, from the time they left Egypt, you have been forgiving this people.”*
(Numbers 14:1-3, 5-8, 10-13, 15-16, 19, Message)

Notes from Worship:

(What caught your attention? What do you want to reflect on more this week?)

Notes from Formation Station:

(Prayer, Bible Study, Discussion, Music, Peace)

Family Discussion Questions:

- In what ways do you resonate with the Israelite people who are afraid?
- How can we approach God with the same kind of honesty and integrity as Moses?
- What are ways that you can scope out the Kingdom of God today?

This Week: **November 4-9**

Scripture Readings:

Monday 11/4	Tuesday 11/5	Wednesday 11/6	Thursday 11/7	Friday 11/8	Saturday 11/9
Numbers 29-32	Numbers 33-36	Deuteronomy 1-3	Deuteronomy 4-7	Deuteronomy 8-11	Deuteronomy 12-15

Questions for Reflection:

These questions are meant to help get you thinking about the readings for each day. Feel free to also use this space to jot down other questions and insights gleaned from your reading.

Monday

- What catches your attention about this description of the holy convocations to be observed in the seventh month? (see Numbers 29)

Tuesday

- What do you find significant about the boundaries of the Promised Land? (Num. 34)

Wednesday

- Why is it important to recount the story from Egypt to the edge of the Promised Land?

Thursday

- What strikes you about the commands as well as the appropriate response to the commands? (Deuteronomy 5-6)

Friday

- Why is remembering so important in these chapters? What does remembering do?

Saturday

- What is the significance of canceling debts every seventh year? (Deuteronomy 15)

Scripture Memory:

Our first memory text is **Deuteronomy 26:5-10a**. We will keep this “Covenant Recital” in the back of our minds until we get to the Prophets. Take some time this week to continue memorizing this text as well as any other text that you would like to memorize.

Next Sunday: November 10

Theme: “Wilderness Wanderings: Shalom”

Scripture Focus: *Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25; 26:1-19*