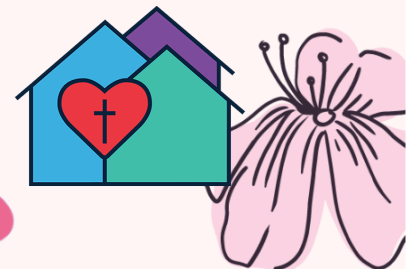




TBCH Mother's Day



NUMBERS 20:1-13

May 12, 2024

BELONG

Get to Know One Another

Due to time, spend less than 5 minutes on this question

If you could have one superpower today, what would it be, and for what purpose?

BELIEVE

Read this Week's Scripture

Today we're going to be in **Numbers 20:1-13**, we find a pivotal moment in the journey of the Israelites through the wilderness - a journey that Scripture reveals has been full of highs and lows. This includes a familiar trial for the Israelites as they move from Egypt - their thirst for water. It's in the middle of this desperation that Moses and Aaron face a test of their own leadership - one that ultimately shapes the course of their journey and serves as a poignant lesson for generations to come. Our Scripture will cover this series of events that not only reveal the challenges of leadership but also highlights the dynamics between faith, frustration, and the consequence of sin. In the end - like Israel and Moses/ Aaron - we're faced with the question of how we will respond to life's trials.

BUILD

Engage and Apply the Scripture

Have someone in your group read **Numbers 20:1-5 & Exodus 17:1-7**

QUESTION 1: There seems to be a lot going against Moses and Israel in these verses. What do you notice? *[Miriam died and was buried. There was no water for the people. The people "assembled against" and "quarreled with" Moses and Aaron.]*

- All of this seems to be happening while Moses is still grieving Miriam's death. What do you think is going on "internally" in Moses as he is experiencing the actions of the people?

QUESTION 2: What was the complaint against Moses and Aaron?

- It has been a while since the people left their slavery in Egypt. During this time, it has proven easier to remove Israel from Egypt than it has to remove Egypt from the people. The people seem to still have "Egypt" in them – a memory of a so-called better life. From our Scripture, what do they associate with Egypt?
- In our own lives, have we left "Egypt" behind OR do we have Egyptian baggage - the old fleshly nature - with us still?

QUESTION 3: Shortly after leaving Egypt, we saw a very similar situation played out in **Exodus 17:1-7. In these verses, we read that God provided for their need of water. Why do you think people are so quick to forget God's provision?**

- What everyday experiences in our lives does God use to test His people even today?
- How is God's testing beneficial to our lives?

QUESTION 4: In our first 5 verses, what was the different reactions to thirst between the people and Moses & Aaron?

- Why do you think it is important to get on your face before God when you are experiencing a “thirst” for something?
- What is happening when we get on our face before God [Have someone in your group read 1 Corinthians 10:4]?

Have someone in your group read [Numbers 20:6-9](#)

QUESTION 5: How did Moses and Aaron immediately respond to everything that is going on in verses 1-5?

- What is our typical response to a situation like this?
- How can this shape our responses to stress or criticism?

QUESTION 6: What was God’s command to Moses in verse 8?

- What is the difference in God’s commands between [Exodus 17:5-6](#) and in [Numbers 20:8](#)? [*Exodus God commands Moses to “strike the rock.” In Numbers, God commands Moses to “tell the rock.”*]

Have someone in your group read [Numbers 20:1-13](#)

QUESTION 7: Moses disobeyed God by striking the rock instead of speaking to it. Why do you think he did this?

- Can you sympathize with Moses’s action? Why or why not?
- Despite Moses’ disobedience, God still provided water for the Israelites. What does this reveal to us about God’s nature?

QUESTION 8: How does the narrative of the Waters of Meribah serve as a reflection on the consequences of disobedience?

BEGIN

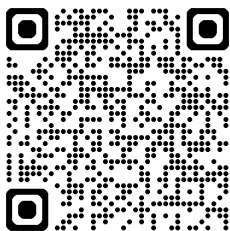
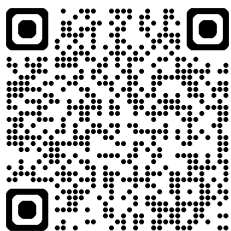
Response and Prayer

At the end of the conversation, spend some time praying as a group.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Blue Letter Bible: [Numbers 20 & Exodus 17:](#)

Check out the QR codes to learn more.



Precept Austin: [Numbers 20 & Exodus 17:](#)

Check out the QR codes to learn more.

