

## Week 7—Numbers 20:1-13

Begin each day of your study by asking the LORD to speak to you through His Word.

### *Day 1*

1. Though our focus this week will be on vv. 1-13, Read Numbers 20:1-29 and jot down thoughts, questions, and observations you have.

**At the Desert of Zin...at Kadesh**—This is the same place where the spies brought back their fearful report of the Promised Land and the people rebelled suggesting the time for the next generation to enter is coming close.

### *Day 2*

1. Read Numbers 20:1-5. As the transition from one generation to the next is taking place, how does this generation compare to the last (see Numbers 11:4-9)? What can this teach us about how generational sin can spread? How can we keep it from spreading?

**Miriam died**—This chapter begins with the death of Miriam (v. 1) and ends with the death of Aaron (v. 28), signifying the end of an era of those who rebelled against the Lord and the chance for the next generation to enter the Promised Land.

2. How does Philippians 2:12-15 speak to the kinds of attitudes God's people displayed in in these verses? Why does Paul speak so strongly against complaining? What are some of the effects it can have on us and our work and service as followers of Jesus?

3. In what situations are you most tempted to be a complainer? What can you learn from these verses in Numbers and Philippians about dealing with that temptation?

### *Day 3*

1. Read Numbers 20:6-8. What was Moses' role between the Lord and people? Compared to Numbers 11, how does Moses handle the people's complaining in these verses?

2. Who is our mediator today? What do the following verses say about this:

1 Timothy 2:5—

Hebrews 8:3-8—

Hebrews 9:11-14—

Hebrews 12:18-24—

Why is Jesus a “better” mediator according to these verses? How does this encourage or inspire you?

3. What were God’s precise instructions to Moses in v. 8? Where do we find God’s instructions for us today? Are you able to follow them faithfully? Why or why not?

#### *Day 4*

1. Read Numbers 20:9-11. Based on v. 8, how well does Moses follow God’s instructions? Make note of what Moses did outside of God’s instructions. Why is this important? Why is it still important for us today?

2. What is at the heart of Moses’ disobedience here in your opinion? How can anger keep us from following God with courage and faithfulness still today.

What do the following verses say about anger:

Proverbs 15:1—

Proverbs 30:33—

1 Corinthians 13:4-6—

Ephesians 4:26-27—

James 1:19-21—

3. Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-4. What does v. 4 tell us about this story and its relation to Christ? How does Jesus speak to this in John 4:7-14? What does this mean for you?

### *Day 5*

1. Read Numbers 10:12-13. What is it about Moses' response to this instance of the people's complaining that will keep him from leading them into the land according to the LORD? Do you find this too harsh? Why or why not? How does Psalm 106:32-33 speak to this?

2. What does this punishment tell us about the standard of perfection that must be met by a mediator who would successfully lead God's people into His rest? Thinking back to Day 3's study of a "mediator", what does this tell us about Jesus?

3. Read Matthew 17:1-3. Who appears with Jesus on the mountain? What does this tell us about God's grace to Moses? What does it tell us about God's grace to us under the new covenant?

### *Conclusion*

1. What most stood out to you as you studied Numbers 20:1-13 this week? *Why* do you think this was the case?
2. What is the Holy Spirit prompting you to *do* as a result of this? Be prepared to share with your group!