

IN THE WILDERNESS

THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

Week 1: The Arrangement of the Camp

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four crucial components for a group to maintain its health: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, you will study the biblical passage in three steps: observation, interpretation, and application. As you study Numbers 16-21, remember that this week's big idea is **"In the Wilderness, remember God's holiness."**

CONNECT

Potential Ice Breakers: Has there ever been a time where you were the recipient of someone else's envy or resentment? How did you navigate that situation?

What kinds of situations entice you towards envy, discouragement, or resentment?

INTRODUCTION

Numbers 16-21 highlights Israel's struggles with rebellion, discontentment, and divine judgment in the wilderness. **Korah's rebellion (Numbers 16)** demonstrates how envy and self-exaltation lead to destruction, as God swiftly judges those who challenge His appointed leadership. **Moses' failure at Meribah (Numbers 20:2-12)** mirrors this pride when, in frustration, he disobeys God by striking the rock, resulting in his exclusion from the Promised Land. Through these events, God's holiness is reaffirmed, teaching that faith, humility, and obedience—not self-reliance—are the keys to inheriting His promises.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

Read: Numbers 16:1-11; 28-32

- Korah and his followers envied Moses' leadership and questioned God's appointed authority. How does envy distort our perception of God's plans and purposes?
- Korah's rebellion was met with swift judgment. How does this passage illustrate the seriousness of rejecting God's authority?
- Compare Korah's pride with the humility of Moses in Numbers 16. What does this teach us about leadership and faithfulness?

Read: Numbers 20:2-12

- The Israelites' discontentment leads them to complain about their circumstances. How does discontentment affect our trust in God's provision?
- Both Korah's rebellion and Moses' disobedience resulted from a failure to trust in God's holiness. How does this challenge us to trust in God's ways over our own?

APPLICATION

- Have you ever felt passed over for a position or opportunity? How does remembering God's sovereignty and holiness help us navigate these moments?
- Korah wanted control. Frustration controlled Moses. How can we submit to God's will in our daily lives?
- Holiness is not an individual pursuit. How can we encourage one another to live set-apart lives?

PRAYER

Take time to pray for one another. Thank God for His holiness and faithfulness. Ask Him to help you trust His ways and grow in holiness individually and as a community. Pray for those who do not yet know Christ, that they may see His holiness and love.