

IN THE WILDERNESS

THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

Week 7: God Promises the Inheritance

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 the group leader, you are free to use any part of this guide that can assist you in achieving this goal.

CONNECT

- Think of these areas of your life like a dashboard on your car: faith, family, finances, fidelity, future, fitness. Like a gas gauge, describe one area that's filled up and one area that's on E.
- What has been a significant takeaway from our journey through the book of Numbers?

INTRODUCTION

The final chapters of Numbers are mainly concerned with the allotment of the land to the tribes of Israel. However, if Israel is going to take possession of the land, they will need to totally destroy the idol worship practiced by the nations before them. The idea of worshipping idols can sound archaic, but idolatry is a very real threat to God's people in our day and age. We are called to the exclusive worship of God, and that requires us to uproot and destroy any trace of idolatry in our lives.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

Read: Numbers 33:50-52

Discuss: In Romans 1:25, Paul describes idolatry as worshipping a created thing rather than the Creator, which can certainly go beyond just the stone and metal images the Canaanites worshiped. In our day and age, what are some created things people tend to worship?

Read: Numbers 33:53-56

Discuss: The LORD says that if idolatry isn't destroyed in the land, it will cause trouble, like a small plant stuck under their eyelids. Thinking of the example you gave above, in what ways does idolizing those things cause trouble?

Read: 1 John 4:9-11

Discuss: The solution to false worship is true worship. In what ways is our God so much better than idols?

APPLICATION

- Do you recognize signs of idolatry in your own life? What does that "worship" look like when it happens?
- Instead of idolatry, what does faith and exclusive worship look like in that area?
- How do the promises of God and the love of Jesus encourage you to reject idolatry and pursue true worship?

PRAYER

- Spend time meditating on the love of God in Christ.
- Pray in faith for God's help to worship him and him alone.