

'The Journey of God's People'

June 18: The Wilderness Part 1 The Book of Numbers

This summer we are taking an extended look at the journey of God's people as recorded in some of the key books of the Old Testament. We believe that the whole story of God and his people ultimately points to and finds its fulfilment in the person of Jesus Christ, so the better we know this story the better we know Jesus' story and the better we'll know our own story as followers of Jesus. We begin our journey this week with the book of Numbers.

Welcome Dads, Grads, and Dan!

During the prayers of the people today we are going to pray for all the Dads (among whom we include all the men who strive to be a source of nurture and support for the children and young people in their lives); for all the Grads: Mark Caldwell (HHS), Chelsea Hoyt (HHS), Carter Scott (HHS), Nicky Beers (KVHS), Alexandra Devitt (KVHS), Colin Waugh (KVHS), Mariah Robichaud (UNB) (we have Bibles for all those the graduating from Hampton High School), and for Rev. Dan McMullen, who will be ordained a priest in the diocese of Fredericton later the same day.

Collect

Almighty God, without you we are not able to please you. Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



The Book of Numbers

Chapter 14 Verses 1-24;

Introduction: It has barely been a year since God led the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt into freedom and the wilderness. They are now on the edge of the land that was promised to their ancestors Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. But before they enter the land Moses sends spies ahead of them to tell the people what the land is like. When the spies return the children of Israel are confronted with two reports regarding the Promised Land. Two of the twelve spies (Caleb and Joshua) say 'Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it' but the other ten spies say, 'what God promised about the land is true but the inhabitants of the land are too mighty, and despite what God has promised we cannot overcome them.'

Discussion Questions

Turning to the people sitting around you invite them to share with you the following (sharing is optional):

- 1) Have they ever read the book of Numbers?
- 2) What stood out to them about the reading from Numbers chapter 14 and/or the video?
- 3) Have you ever blessed or been blessed by anyone?

Notes: