

MURPHY ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 11th, 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study at the Quinns June 23rd

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jenny Spradlin

Gloria Ferrell

Millie Broussard

Leola Weathers

John Cash

Austin Wilburn

Donna Meeks

Pat Andress

SHUT IN

Bess Pollock

Iva Williams

Travelling

The Quinn's

The Barkoh's

Meeting Times:

Sunday: 9:30 Worship

Sunday: 10:30 Bible Class

Sunday: 5:00 Worship

Wednesday 7:30 PM Bible Class

Looking for opportunities to serve?

- Talk to an elder about teaching a Bible Class.
- Ask an elder about specific needs that can be met.

Interested in further Bible study?

- Speak with our full time evangelist. Nathan Quinn can be reached at (402) 304-5699.

*"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God;
and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God."*

1st John 4:7



Reading Your Bible Series

Numbers

By Nathan Quinn

The 4th book of the Bible is named Numbers. The name of this book comes from the emphasis the book places on numbers. Like Leviticus, it can prove to be a challenging book to read. There are lots and lots of numbers in this book. Numbers (to most people) are boring, *unless* they are defining something that interests us. Sports fans care a lot about numbers. Scores and records are very significant to sports fans. Paychecks and hours worked are significant to us. We want our agreement to be honored at the end of the week. While the numbers of this book seem far removed from us, they were abundantly important to the children of Israel. As we read this account, we will see how important an obedient faith is toward God. There will be a generation of the sons of Abraham who would not enter the promised land and a generation of those who would enter.

The first half of Numbers deals with the first generation of those who left Egypt (Numbers 1:1-2). They are numbered and arranged. Some additional instructions are given to the Levites as well as some specific duties for certain families among the Levites. In chapter 7, the leaders of the tribes make offerings to dedicate the newly constructed tabernacle. After this lengthy section, we start to see the people grumble and complain about their circumstances and about their leader Moses (Numbers 11). The people prove to be ungrateful and hard hearted. Sadly, this does not just describe the people. Even Aaron and Miriam complain against Moses (Numbers 12). All of this is setting up for what will ultimately become of this generation. In Numbers 13-14 we have the account of the 12 leaders (13:2) who would spy out the land. When they reported back to the children of Israel. However, the other 10 leaders were faithless and believed the obstacles were too great to overcome and only Joshua and Caleb had faith in what the Lord promised.. Sadly, the people were influenced by the majority and immediately grumbled and longed for Egypt (14:1-2). Through the remainder of this section we have repeated examples of this attitude and a willingness to be lead into sin from the advise of Balaam. This generation numbered at the beginning of the book would not inherit the promised land.

In Numbers 26, the second generation is counted in a census. Ultimately, this would be the generation to whom God fulfilled His land promise. As the new generation prepares to enter and the old generation fades away, Joshua is commissioned to take the place of Moses (Numbers 27:12-23). The book ends with commands dealing with the upcoming residence in the land of Canaan (34-36). As the book ends, a question looms. Will this generation take hold of what God has promised? That question will be answered in the book of Joshua!

Where will you be counted? With the generation who was laid low in the wilderness? Or those who experienced the triumph of Jericho and began to inherit the incredible promise of God?