

the WELL

DEEP TRUTHS
LASTING
TRANSFORMATION



Devotional Cover Page

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“With joy shall I draw water from the well of salvation.” Isaiah 12:3

I heard John Maxwell say, *“The greatest day in a man’s life is the day he was born. The second greatest day in a man’s life is the day he finds out why.”* You are no accident my friend. God created you on purpose, with purpose and for a purpose. A God-designed destiny to impact the world in which we live. The greatest adventure we will ever live is the journey of following Jesus and discovering why He put us here. It is that great adventure that has brought us here to The Well.

The first step on this grand adventure happens when a person makes a decision to become a “follower of Christ.” For example, in Mark 1:17 Jesus is walking by the side of a sea and sees Peter in a boat and says to him - “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” There are 2 parts to this powerful statement - the first is simple “follow Me,” Jesus said. Every person alive at some point will have that same opportunity. To follow Jesus is to first decide that He alone is Lord of every facet of our life. It is to put our full faith and trust that what the Bible says about Jesus and the way in which I should live is absolute truth. It is a great journey into a personal relationship with this amazing God who created the world, everything and everyone in it. When I commit myself to this process I discover the latter half of the statement where Jesus said - “follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Following Him is the key to discovering purpose and fulfilling our God-given destiny.

Anyone who sets out on a grand adventure, must take stock of the necessary supplies and tools we need in order to succeed in our endeavor. According to the Bible, there are really about 5 things we need:

1. Make a quality decision, to be a life-long follower of Jesus Christ.
2. Develop a daily study of the Word of God.
3. Discover and develop a solid prayer life.
4. Become an active part of the Body of Christ.
5. Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit

The Well is simply a structure, a set of plans, to assist people who are hungry to grow in their personal relationship with Jesus and successfully fulfill this grand adventure. Each month we will look at a different theme and take us deeper into our understanding of the Scripture and how to apply Biblical principles to our daily lives. Thank you for joining us on this adventure of learning to draw the water of life, from the well of salvation.

Drawing water from - The Well

Different parts of this discipleship tool.

Exercising my Faith this month

- Each month I encourage you to have a faith goal. What are you believing God to do in your life? As you work through this early in the month. Learn to grab a hold of the promises of God by faith and join together with God to see His will fully accomplished in every area of your life. *(Example on p. 6)*

Weekly: Each Week there are 4 sections:

- **The Well - Daily Devotional thought written by multiple authors from The Father's House.**
 - Each day we will be looking at a small passage of Scripture and drawing truths up from the Word of God that will inspire the manner in which we live. Each month will have a theme we will be pursuing. Each day ends with a prompting for each reader to "put the Word to work." Remember it's not about how much we simply read, but how much of the Word we apply to our daily life that really matters.
- **Weekly Bible Reading Guide** (4 different options to choose from) *(See Page 9)*
 - Daily reading and study of the Scripture is essential for spiritual health. Here we provide 4 possible reading guides.
 - Option 1 - Follow this plan to read the entire Bible once in three years.
 - Option 2 - Follow this plan to read the entire Bible once per year.
 - Option 3 - Follow this plan to read the entire Bible once per 3 months.
 - Option 4 - Follow this plan to read the New Testament once per month.
- **Weekly Prayer notes**
 - Recording prayer notes is essential both for remembering what the Holy Spirit is speaking and evaluating what we hear based upon the Word of God. It is also encouraging to look back and see how God has been moving in the areas of life we have been praying about. We encourage you to bring this with you to your prayer time and prayer meetings. Regularly visit and revisit your prayer notes sections and write down what God is doing in and through prayer in your life. *(example, see page 7)*
- **Sermon Notes**
 - Often in services there are many great things said that I want to remember. I have discovered what science has already proven to be correct - if I listen and write down thoughts my retention doubles. Included are pages for sermon notes available to be used for each Wednesday and Sunday of the month. *(Example see page 8)*

In addition, we encourage you to join one of our Growth Groups. Inside these groups of up to 5, people will connect and share insights we are learning and growing in. I highly encourage you to get connected and join one of these groups.

(Example) Exercising my Faith this Month

Hebrews 11:1-2, 6 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.... 6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Q: What are 1 or 2 things you are believing God to do in your life this month?

1. I am believing God that He will surround me with His peace in the middle of a troubling time in the world.

2. I am believing God will heal my mother and renew her strength and vitality.

Q: Are there any Scriptures that directly deal with these?

Isaiah 26:3 ~ You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. John 14:27 ~ Peace I leave

with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Colossians 3:15 ~ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Philippians 4:6-7 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ

Jesus.

Peter 2:24 that 'By Your stripes, I was healed.' Psalm 103:3 - You have 'healed me from every disease.' In Matthew 15:26 that 'healing is the children's bread'

Everyday, we take the Word of God that deals directly with situations we face, and lift up the promises in His Word that deal directly with these situations. We both remind ourselves that God has spoken and secondly, we take that promise and lift it up in prayer.

Part of my daily prayer: *God You said, You will keep me in perfect peace when I bind You to my mind. I choose today to intentionally think about You and trust that You will keep me in perfect peace. You promised your peace you would give me, that it would remain with me. I choose to let your peace rule in my heart, I refuse to be anxious, but come to You with my prayers and needs with thanksgiving present my requests unto You, and in return I today receive Your supernatural peace.*

"God You said in Your Word - I Peter 2:24 that 'By Your stripes, we were healed.' That according to Psalm 103 - You have 'healed us from every disease.' In Matthew 15:26 that 'healing is the children's bread' and since my mother is a child of God, I thank you that healing is hers, I ask you to heal, and renew her strength this day and exercise my faith believing that you will in Jesus' name."

<p>Specific things I am praying about for my family.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Daily for God's protection over my wife and children - (Psalm 91 and Isaiah 54:17)</i> - <i>Daily to hear and know God's voice, to be led by His Spirit in all that I say and do. (John 10 and Romans 8)</i> - <i>To walk in His supernatural provision and wisdom, to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge (Philippians 4, Ephesians 1 and 3).</i> 	<p>Specific things I am praying about for people in my church.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>That God would grant wisdom, protection and provision to our leaders.</i> - <i>Every week, I ask for people to come know and follow Christ, to encounter God's presence and to experience His goodness in every service.</i> - <i>That God would bring every person He has called to be a part of The Father's House here.</i> - <i>That God would heal and deliver those who are in need.</i> - <i>_____, the person who was in my row that told me of his desire to see his son come back to the Lord, I am praying for his son by name all week, that God would send someone across His path to lead Him back to Jesus.</i>
<p>Things I sensed from the Holy Spirit while I was praying this week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>When I asked God if there was anything He wanted to say to me today, I heard Him simply say - "You are my son, and I love you."</i> - <i>I was talking to the Lord, and felt like He reminded me this morning of the story in the gospels when He came walking on the water, and said to Peter, "come out here with me." I felt like He was letting me know, sometimes when He leads it will be in areas I have never gone before, and didn't know I could - such as walking on water.</i> 	<p>People I am praying for their salvation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Benjamin</i> - <i>Paul</i> - <i>Keith</i> - <i>Joel</i> - <i>Jordan</i>

Series (if applicable):

Scripture(s)	Things I want to remember	Things I want to study further
Genesis 17:21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - God has more in store for me than I have yet discovered - If Abraham laughed when he first heard the promise of God, and could still find God's favor and believe, then I realize I'm not alone, when sometimes I find it almost "too good to be true." 	
2 Peter 1:5 - 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If I "add" these 7 areas to my faith in God - there is unstoppable fruit that will come in my life. - I can lead someone to Jesus - I can bear the fruit of the Spirit - I can discover and develop the call of God on my life - I can be fully assured of my salvation - I can live without stumbling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is Virtue? - What is knowledge referring to? - I think I understand self-control - Are perseverance and patience the same word here? - What is meant here by Godliness - What's the difference between brotherly love and love in 2 Peter 1:7

Versions of the Bible

There have been many arguments over the centuries about which version of the Bible is the best. Truth be told, I have many versions of the Bible and enjoy reading and studying most. The default version for this study will be the New King James Version (NKJV) of the Bible. If a contributing author uses a different version it will be labeled as such. Other common versions of the Bible quoted from in The Well include, but are not limited to:

The Amplified Bible (AMP)
New International Version (NIV)
The Passion Translation (TPT)
Young's Literal Translation (YLT)

King James Version (KJV)
The Message Translation (MSG)
The New Living Translation (NLT)

Often people will ask, why is the language so much different from one version of the Bible to the next. Very important question. There are two basic distinctions to pay attention to as you are reading the Bible - is the version you are reading a "paraphrase" or is it a literal translation from original language into our language? The goal of a literal translation approach is to have a word-for-word literal translation from the original manuscripts into our modern day language. The goal of a paraphrase is to capture the idea as communicated in the original language and attempt to use modern language to communicate that same idea. For example when we look at the famous John 3:16

(NKJV) - ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

(AMP) - ¹⁶ "For God so [greatly] loved and dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] only begotten Son, so that whoever believes and trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish, but have eternal life.

(YLT) - ¹⁶ for God did so love the world, that His Son -- the only begotten -- He gave, that every one who is believing in him may not perish, but may have life age-

(MSG) - ¹⁶ This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

You can quickly see the different approaches in these versions of Bible translation. Some are focused on a direct word for word translation regardless of the difficulty in reading in current language. On the other end of the spectrum authors focus on taking the concept and making it easy to read in our current language.

I am not one that will mandate a single-specific version of the Bible. However, three things I would look to avoid in study of the Bible: 1) Any translation that eliminates the deity of Christ. 2) Some "woke" versions of the Bible being made, for example the "gender neutral" Bible. 3) If an author has attempted to "water" down absolute truths included in Scripture I pay no attention to those versions.

There are many websites that provide access to these translations and more such as biblegateway.com providing free easy access to those who want to compare various translations and paraphrases of the Bible.

Bible Reading Plan February

	3 year (2)	Once/year	Once Quarterly	New Testament in a month
1	Deut. 1	Leviticus 1-4	2 Chron. 6:37 - 22:6	Matt. 1-3; Rom. 1-4; Act 1; Rev. 1
2	Deut. 2	Leviticus 5-7	2 Chron. 22:7 - 34-26	Matt. 4-6; Rom. 5-8; Acts 2; Rev. 2
3	Deut. 3	Leviticus 8-10	2 Chron. 34:27 - Ezra	Matt 7-9; Rom. 9-12; Acts 3; Rev. 3
4	Deut. 4	Leviticus 11-13	Nehemiah 1 - 12:36	Matt. 10-12; Rom. 13-16; Acts 4; Rev. 5
5	Deut. 5	Leviticus 14-15	Neh. 12:37 - Job 6:15	Mat. 13-15; I Cor. 1-4; Acts 5; Rev. 5
6	Deut. 6	Leviticus 16-18	Job 6:16 - 23:17	Matt. 16-18; I Cor. 5-8; Acts 6; Rev. 6
7	Deut. 7	Leviticus 19-21	Job 24:1 - 40:18	Matt. 19-21; I Cor. 9-12; Acts 7; Rev. 7
8	Deut. 8	Leviticus 22-23	Job 40:19 - Psalm 22	Mat. 22-24; 1 Cor. 13-16; Acts 8; Rev. 8
9	Deut. 9	Leviticus 24-25	Psalm 23 - 43	Matt. 25-28; 2 Cor. 1-4; Acts 9; Rev. 9
10	Deut. 10	Leviticus 26-27	Psalm 44 - 68	Luke 1-2; 2 Cor. 5-8; Acts 10; Rev. 10
11	Deut. 11	Numbers 1-2	Psalm 69 - 87	Luke 3-4; 2 Cor. 9-13; Acts 11; Rev. 11
12	Deut. 12	Numbers 3-4	Psalm 88 - 107	Luke 5-7; Gal. 1-3; Acts 12; Rev. 12
13	Deut. 13	Numbers 5-6	Psalm 108 -130	Luke 8-10; Gal. 4-6; Acts 13; Rev. 13
14	Deut. 14	Numbers 7	Psalm 131 - Prov. 5	Luke 11-13; Eph. 1-3; Acts 14; Rev. 14
15	Deut. 15	Numbers 8-10	Proverbs 6 - 19	Luke 14-16; Eph. 4-6; Acts 15; Rev. 15
16	Deut. 16	Numbers 11-13	Proverbs 20 - 31	Luke 17-19; Phil. 1-4; Acts 16; Rev. 16
17	Deut. 17	Numbers 14-15	Ecc. & Song of S.	Luke 20-22; Col. 1-4; Acts 17; Rev. 17
18	Deut. 18	Numbers 16-17	Isaiah 1 - 12	Luke 23-24; I Thess. 1-5; Acts 18; Rev. 18
19	Deut. 19	Numbers 18-20	Isaiah 13 - 28	Mark. 1-3; 2 Thess. 1-3; Acts 19; Rev. 19
20	Deut. 20	Numbers 21-22	Isaiah 29 - 41	Mark 4-6; I Tim. 1-6; Acts 20; Rev. 20
21	Deut. 21	Numbers 23-25	Isaiah 42 - 51	Mark 7-9; 2 Tim. 1-4; Acts 21; Rev. 21
22	Deut. 22	Numbers 26-27	Isaiah 52 - 66	Mark 10-12; Titus. 1-3; Philemon 1; Acts 22; Rev. 22
23	Deut. 23	Numbers 28-30	Jeremiah 1 - 9	Mark 13-16; Hebrews 1-4; Acts 23; 2 John
24	Deut. 24	Numbers 31-32	Jeremiah 10 - 22	John 1-3; Hebrews 5-8; Acts 24; 3 John
25	Deut. 25	Numbers 33-34	Jeremiah 23 - 32	John 4-7; Hebrews 9-13; Acts 25; Jude
26	Deut. 26	Numbers 35-36	Jeremiah 33 - 46	John 8-11; James 1-5; Acts 26; I John 1-2
27	Deut. 27	Deut. 1-2	Jer.47 - Lam 1	John 12-16; I Peter 1-5; Acts 27; I John 3-4
28	Deut. 28	Deut. 3-4	Lam 2 - Ez. I-10	John 17-21; 2 Peter 1-3; Acts 28; I John 5

Exercising my Faith this Month

Hebrews 11:1-2, 6 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.... 6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Q: What are 1 or 2 things you are believing God to do in your life this month?

Q: Are there any Scriptures that directly deal with these things you are believing God for?

Everyday, we take the Word of God that deals directly with situations we face, and lift up the promises in His Word that deal directly with these situations. We both remind ourselves that God has spoken and secondly, we take that promise and lift it up in prayer.

Example: "God You said in Your Word - I Peter 2:24 that 'By Your stripes, I was healed.' That in Psalm 103 - You have 'healed me from every disease.' In Matthew 15:26 that 'healing is the children's bread' and since I am a child of God, I thank you and receive healing in Jesus' name."

Week One

Week One Prayer Notes

Specific things I am praying about for my family.

Specific things I am praying about for people in my church.

Things I sense from the Holy Spirit while I pray.

People I am praying for their salvation.

February 1

A covenant with God

Today's Bible Reading - Leviticus 1-4

The sacrificial ordinances were established to give the Israelite nation a means to maintain their relationship with God. The sacrifices were designed to forgive sin, offer a tithe or offering and to reestablish or solidify their covenant relationship with God. There were several voluntary sacrifices and some mandatory sacrifices. Each sacrifice came with a ritual that was to be performed by the priesthood who served as the go-between God and the individual that was presenting the sacrifice. There are numerous accounts in the Old Testament where massive amounts of animals were sacrificed as an act of worship to the Lord. In 2 Chronicles 7:5 it says: "King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand bulls and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So, the king and all the people dedicated the house of God." Can you imagine the scene where that many animals were killed, skinned and cut up at one time. (That was one big feast.)

The sacrificial rituals of the Old Testament were given to the people in lieu of the resident power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ was a part of that same sacrificial ritual. He was offered up by God as the once and for all sacrifice for the sins of the world. Note that He was not just offered as a sacrifice for your sins, but for the sins of the entire world. His sacrifice included everyone living at the time that He was offered up, as well as, everyone that would come afterward. When we see someone that has a terrible habit, or has done a horrific act, we need to remember the Christ died for them as well as for us.

We are truly blessed to be out from under the old way of atoning for our sins. We simply go to Jesus and asked for forgiveness. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9 I NKJV) We do not have to go through the bloody rituals of sacrificing an animal in order to receive the forgiveness from the Lord. All that is required of us is repentance. Repentance is when we not only regret what we have done but when we renounce what we have done and turn away from the act and do our best to go the opposite direction.

Christ died once and for all to resolve the sin problem. Now we must accept the sacrifice that He did and believe that what was done on the cross was done for eternity. We need to believe that Jesus' sacrifice is sufficient for us and for the world.

Putting the Word to Work

When you discover that you have sinned, be quick to ask the Lord's forgiveness. In the same manner, if someone sins against you, be quick to forgive

February 2

Once For All

Today's Bible Reading: Leviticus 5-7

"As a guilt offering to the Lord, you must bring to the priest your own ram with no defects, or you may buy one of equal value. Through this process, the priest will purify you before the Lord, making you right with him, and you will be forgiven for any of these sins you have committed." -Leviticus 6:6-7

"If that had been necessary, Christ would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice." -Hebrews 9:26

Leviticus carefully describes the process of forgiveness. It really does look similar to what we do today. If an Israelite found themselves in a situation where they had committed a sin (intentionally or by mistake), they must confess their sin, make an acceptable offering to the Lord (which included a costly ram), and then the priest made atonement before the Lord; only then were they forgiven. This process was demanding. It reminded God's people that sin not only caused a divide in their relationship with God, but also that restoration came at a cost.

Fast forward to the New Testament, in Hebrews, we learn that Jesus stepped into this system and fulfilled it completely. He didn't bring a sacrifice; he became the sacrifice. This didn't need to be repeated over and over because Jesus was enough. Once for all, he dealt with our sin by giving Himself. He also bridged the gap between the us and the Lord, standing in our place and making atonement so we could be restored.

When reading this, I found myself thinking about how thankful I am that God picked me to live in the time that I do, and I didn't have to go through this rigorous process every time I make a mistake. However, I believe acknowledging the past in Leviticus is incredibly important to understand the weight of what Christ accomplished. Without it, we might just see the cross as convenient and forget how costly it was. Christ's sacrifice was not cheap; it was purchased with blood.

Today, when we need God's forgiveness, we don't come with a ram offering in our hands; we come with forgiveness in our hearts. Forgiveness is still just as costly as it was in Leviticus, and it is still so very precious. The difference is that Christ completed the job; the work is already done.

Putting the Word to Work

Take some time today to thank Jesus, not only for forgiving your sin, but for completing the work once and for all. Your obedience to Him should be a response to His grace, not an attempt to earn it.

February 3

Consecration

Today's Bible Reading: Leviticus 8-10

Leviticus 8:22,23 - And he brought the second ram, the ram of consecration. Then Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram, and Moses killed it. Also he took some of its blood and put it on the tip of Aaron's right ear, on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot.

The first in the priestly anointing began with the bathing of Aaron and his sons. Then Moses clothed Aaron with a tunic, robe and linen ephod, a sacred apron like garment with shoulder straps that held a breastplate with the Urim and Thummim, (Those two items helped the priest discern God's will in making decisions.) He was also given a holy crown.

Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the sin offering, a bull Moses had killed. This offering, the sacrifice, was given as payment for the sins of the people. After this something very unusual, but significant, happened. Moses took some of the blood of the sacrificial ram, the ram of consecration, and put it on Aaron's right ear, the thumb of his right hand, and his right big toe.

Consecration....one's "voluntary act of offering their life, time, talents and possessions to God for His service." Moses applied the blood to Aaron's ear so he could better hear God, his right toe so he would remember to walk in righteousness, and the thumb of his right hand to remind him to dedicate himself to God's service.

The altar calls recently in our services seem to be centering in, emphasizing, making Jesus Lord of our lives. Wasn't that what Moses was leading Aaron to do when he touched his ear, thumb and toe? Let's pray for these who are standing up for "consecration" right now. It's a very serious and glorious step to be taking! The Holy Spirit is deep at work in this church body to draw us closer to Jesus, and what a glorious time this is!

Putting the Word to Work

Have you stepped forward for "consecration" yet?

"Jesus, please help us to remember this passage in Leviticus chapter 8. Anoint our ear to hear, our hand to serve wherever You choose, and to always walk in the path where You are leading us."

February 4

The Law of Purity

Today's Reading Leviticus 11-13

God is a God of holiness, righteousness, and purity. These are addressed in these three chapters. I'm going to concentrate on purity of the soul which can be represented by the physical sickness of leprosy.

Leprosy is very serious and horrible. It is such a dramatic picture of sin and its spiritual operation in our lives. What starts out small can become the death of its victim. Unless it is dealt with at the very beginning, it (sin) can overtake us and cause us to lose our spiritual footing altogether.

This parable of leprosy was given to us to demonstrate what a fearful and loathsome thing sin is in the sight of God. In comparing leprosy to sin: It begins as nothing; it is painless in the first stages; it grows slowly; it often remits for a while and then returns; it numbs the senses, so one cannot feel in the affected area (denial); it causes decay and deformity; and in time, gives a person a repulsive appearance. Eventually, one cannot have fellowship with God's people, and by his sin, is utterly and entirely shut out from the presence and acceptance of God.

But God made a way that leprosy could be cured. God had a plan of reclamation, redemption and restoration through His Son, Jesus and the cross at Calvary. What could be greater than the love of God for mankind and our leprous sin? He removed our death sentence and gave us life eternal.

I've never heard an alcoholic say with their first drink, "I plan on being an alcoholic," or a gambler when buying their first lottery ticket declare, "I'm going to be addicted to games of chance." Sin is an insidious action that begins slowly and picks up speed as it progresses. God knew there had to be guidelines and we needed to be aware of where dangers exist in our journey. The Holy Spirit convicts, and hopefully, repentance follows so we don't land in the "pit of despair," or worse yet, destruction altogether.

Putting the Word to Work

1. Are there areas in your life that could be a pitfall for you?

2. Denial is something that has to be overcome. The Holy Spirit, if allowed, will help to recognize and give strength for victory. Are you willing to lay it down?

February 5

Human Frailties before a Holy God

Leviticus 14-15

“And the priest shall go out of the camp, and the priest shall look. Then, if the case of leprous disease is healed in the leprous person...” Leviticus 14:3

Leviticus chapters 14 and 15 draw our attention to places we often avoid—human weakness, illness, and conditions that bring discomfort or shame. Yet these chapters reveal something deeply pastoral about God: He does not look away from human frailty. He meets it with care, intention, and a path toward restoration. God is the god of restoration.

In Leviticus 14, the focus is not on diagnosing sickness, but on welcoming the healed back into community. The priest does not wait in a sacred space for the unclean to approach. Instead, he goes outside the camp. This movement matters. It shows us a God who does not demand that broken people navigate their way back alone. Restoration begins with God moving toward those who were once separated. He is always drawing near us.

The process that follows is careful and unhurried. Cleansing unfolds over time, with attention and dignity. Healing is honored as real, but wholeness is treated as something to be restored thoughtfully. God does not rush people back into fellowship—He walks them there.

Leviticus 15 continues this theme by addressing bodily conditions that are natural and unavoidable parts of being human. These conditions are not framed as moral failures. Instead, they are realities that affect relationship, worship, and community life. God acknowledges human limitations without attaching shame. His concern is not punishment, but protection—both for the individual and for the community. What stands out across both chapters is how personal God’s care is. Bodies, clothing, beds, and homes are all included. Nothing is too ordinary to matter. Holiness is not confined to the sanctuary; it reaches into everyday life. God desires people who are not only forgiven, but restored—physically, spiritually, and relationally. Grace is woven throughout these instructions. Provision is made for those who cannot afford much. No one is excluded because of weakness or lack. God’s holiness is never separated from His mercy. Together, these chapters remind us that God is holy without being distant. He sees human frailty clearly—and still makes a way back into His presence.

Putting the Word to Work

God’s holiness does not push us away in our weakness—it moves toward us with restoration in mind.

Where might God be inviting you to stop hiding your frailty and allow Him to meet you there?

February 6

Our Covering is Found in the Blood

From Today's Bible Reading Leviticus 16-18

Leviticus 17:11 (KJV) "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul."

In reading Leviticus chapters 16 through 18, a compelling conclusion was made. It is the need for Christ and the one perfect sacrifice to end all sacrifices. The word atonement translated, means "to cover," and is a form of the Hebrew word kaphar. Originally, it referred to the waterproof covering of the ark, but in the time of the Levitical priests, it had a much greater theological meaning attached to it. Atonement meant the reconciliation and the purging of sin.

A Levitical priest, was a descendant from the tribe of Levi, one of the 12 tribes of Jacob's sons. They were a special class of priests and ministers. Set apart to fulfill many duties, some of which included performing sacrifices to cover the sins (or make atonement) for new Israel and its people. These priests had to maintain very high standards of strict ceremonial cleanliness and be without blemish. Not just anyone could perform or stand in as an intercessor to the Father, unlike now.

Only, with Christ's beautiful sacrifice, all ceremonial sacrifices have since ceased. Through the blood of Jesus being shed, we now have the protection and the covering of all coverings! This does not come without a cost, though, as we are told that if we love Jesus we will obey Him and keep His commandments (John 14:15). Also confirmed in 1 John 1:7, when the words says *"But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin."*

As you embark on this new year, appreciate the fact that we live in a time where we have full access to the greatest Intercessor, Jesus. Be thankful that we no longer have to follow so many sacrificial laws. These laws were incredibly complex and detailed. Now, we are allowed to come to Him with a pure heart and get the forgiveness, help and answers we seek. What a God!

Putting the Word to Work

Do you feel that you fully understand what the blood truly does? If not, I encourage you to research this further.

Try to imagine how different your life would be if God would not have sent His holy Son to cover your sins.

February 7

God's Grace demonstrated by God's laws

Today's Bible Reading - Leviticus 19-21

When we read (or listen) to Scripture, we need to pay attention to the verb form. Even in legal contracts throughout the ages, the verb conveys a specific message. "Shall" is a statement of fact or "carved in stone" so to speak. Such as the ten commandments at Mt. Sinai. No negotiation. "Will" can suggest a choice is involved even when an emphatic direction is given. The Hebrew people were taught the Ten Commandments and knew the law. But for the sake of clarity, Leviticus was given to enhance the understanding of how the law applies in everyday life situations. It answers the "what if's" of daily life.

Leviticus 19 - Describes many of the moral and ceremonial Laws: And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: "You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy." This is a prelude for the reasons to obey the laws of God. HE IS HOLY! In every following statement to the people, Scripture says, "you shall." It is a requirement.

Leviticus 20 - Describes penalties associated with breaking the Law: This chapter explains the specific penalties for disobedience of the law, and provides more examples of forbidden behavior. Many penalties may seem harsh, but God it demonstrates God's great love for us as He demonstrates the seriousness of sin and the ramifications and propensity towards sinfulness of mankind. He is teaching them His precepts long before they reach the Promised Land that they may prosper. In these chapters in Leviticus, SHALL is a requirement for the people. But in Leviticus 20, God states that IF a requirement is broken, HE WILL administer a penalty.

Leviticus 21 - Describes regulations for the conduct of priests because the priests represented the presence of God, "The Lord said to Moses, 'Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: "None shall defile himself for the dead..." Family exceptions were given. Those offering sacrifice to the Lord "shall be holy to you, for I the Lord, who sanctify you, am holy.'" Cleanliness and specific grooming practices are stated, requirements for a wife, and anointed clothing to serve the Lord. Beginning at verse 10, specific instructions are given for "High Priests," who are "consecrated and anointed" as the only ones who may serve in the presence of the Lord. Family defects in Levites that are restricted from temple service are listed to avoid defilement. "24 And Moses told it to Aaron and his sons, and to all the children of Israel."

More information about blessings and cursings is found in Deuteronomy 28. Again, look for "SHALL" and "WILL." But, remember: God always had a plan of Redemption through his Son, Jesus, that IF you repent (change course), the Blood of Jesus covers your sin and rebellion for all eternity. Rejoice!

Putting the Word to Work

What do you see as we study the connection between God's boundaries and His love for us as His creation?

Week One Sermon Notes

Week One Sermon Notes

Date: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Series (if applicable): _____

Scripture(s)	Things I want to remember	Things I want to study further

Week One Sermon Notes

Date: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Series *(if applicable)*: _____

Scripture(s)	Things I want to remember	Things I want to study further

Week Two

Week Two Prayer Notes

<p>Specific things I am praying about for my family.</p>	<p>Specific things I am praying about for people in my church.</p>
<p>Things I sense from the Holy Spirit while I pray.</p>	<p>People I am praying for their salvation.</p>

February 8

The Feasts of the Lord

Today's Bible Reading Leviticus 22-23

Leviticus 23:4 'These are the feasts of the Lord, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.'

Here are the seven "Feasts of the Lord," the nation of Israel was to participate in each and every year. Each one, was beautiful in its remembrance, its practice and is prophetic in nature pointing to a future day.

Feast	Practice	Historical Significance	Prophetic Fulfillment
Passover (vs. 5)	Each home would conduct the "Passover seder" meal including candles (Light of the World); eating bread and wine (communion) Killing and eating of the Pure Spotless Passover Lamb	Remembering the Blood of the Passover Lamb on the night of God's great deliverance from slavery in Egypt.	Jesus was called the "Passover Lamb" who takes away the sins of the World in John 1. We also see the Last Supper was the Passover Sedar meal all pointing to Jesus.
Unleavened Bread (vs. 6-8)	For 7 days, they purge their homes of any leaven and eat only unleavened bread. No customary work, and present offering by fire unto the Lord each day.	Represents the haste of the Exodus and freedom from spiritual bondage. Symbolizes putting away sin, impurity, and malice, focusing on sincerity and truth.	Jesus purging us of sin upon His death and Resurrection and our escape from being slaves of sin.
Feast of Firstfruits (vs. 9-14)	The dedication of the first fruits of the barley harvest.	Commemorates Israel's departure from Egypt and the start of the grain harvest.	Celebrating Jesus Resurrection as the "Firstborn of many brethren," the first fruits of the harvest.
Feast of Weeks (aka Pentecost)	It marks the end of the barley harvest and the beginning of the wheat harvest, signifying the spiritual bounty of the Word	It was here Moses received the 10 Commandments on Mt. Sinai and the instructions on how God wanted us to live.	Day of Pentecost in Acts 2, when the disciples received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and began to bring in the harvest of souls for the Kingdom.
Feast of Trumpets (Lev. 23:24)	A "memorial of blowing of trumpets," a command given without much explanation. Yet, hidden within this celebration is a profound mystery that points to the future return of Jesus.	In Exodus 19, when God gave the Ten Commandments to Israel on Mount Sinai, the people heard the blast of the trumpet. The sound of the shofar, growing louder and louder, filled the heavens, causing the people to tremble.	Mat. 24:31 declares: "He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather His elect." The trumpet sound that once echoed from Sinai will resound again, this time announcing the coming of the Messiah.
Day of Atonement	A time to be cleansed from sin before God. The one day, the High Priest would enter behind the veil and present an atoning offering before the Lord for the nation.	It's the culmination of the "Days of Awe" (Yamim Noraim), a period of introspection after the Jewish New Year (Rosh Hashanah). It's a chance for spiritual renewal, reconciliation with God, and for the nation of Israel to be purified.	When Jesus was crucified, the veil of the temple was torn in two, creating the way for us to enter into the Holy of Holies daily, and enjoy the benefits of His atoning sacrifice.
Feast of Tabernacles	Families build and eat in tents with open, leafy roofs to recall God's provision & presence in the wilderness period	Reminds Jews of God's protection and provision during their desert wanderings and marks the end and celebration of the agricultural harvest.	One day, we will celebrate at a large banqueting table in heaven, when the harvest is complete and we join Jesus for eternity.

Putting the Word to Work: Which one of these do you relate to the most?

February 9

The Benefits of Hearing The Lord

Today's Bible Reading Leviticus 24 - 25

Leviticus 25:35a (the Message) "If one of your brothers becomes indigent and cannot support himself, help him."

In chapter 25 God gave Moses the blueprint for walking in the fullness of God. By keeping the Sabbath, taking time to rest in God, the land was also to rest every seventh year. It was the picture of how to enter into Jubilee, proclaiming liberty throughout all the land and to all its inhabitants.

The Lord's heart was to see that no one was left behind. Leviticus 25:35a (the Message) "If one of your brothers becomes indigent and cannot support himself, help him." 1John 3:17 "If anyone has this world's goods (resources for sustaining life) and sees his brother and fellow believer in need, yet closes his heart of compassion against him, how can the love of God live and remain in him?" 18 "Little children let us not love (merely) in theory or in speech but in deed and in truth (in practice and in sincerity). 19 "By this we shall come to know (perceive, recognize and understand) that we are of the Truth and can reassure (quiet, conciliate, and pacify) our hearts in His presence."

Psalms 16:11 "You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy, at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." Fullness of joy! This joy isn't based on worldly circumstances but on a deep spiritual connection with God. Offering unshakeable satisfaction at Your right hand symbolizes strength, provision, protection and everlasting pleasures. Path of life-God reveals the way to live, offering purpose and meaning beyond fleeting worldly pleasures.

God required more than obedience from the Israelites. He was showing a blueprint, one of love and compassion. This is not just for the Israelites but also for the church.

Putting the Word to Work

Did we miss anything? Like our Master's call? Or were we too busy having a good time and all? Did we not hearken to Your plea to help those bound by the enemy? Did we miss anyone, Lord? Did we do what You asked us to? Did we hear and obey You? Did we miss anyone, Lord?

February 10

Covenants & Vows

Today's Bible reading Leviticus 26-27

Leviticus 26 and 27 conclude the book by detailing covenant blessings for obedience and severe curses for disobedience, emphasizing themes of holiness, faithfulness, and restoration. Notice as we read through them, the "If and Then" language in these promises. Blessings (v. 1-13): If Israel follows God's laws (especially regarding idols, Sabbaths, and sanctuary), God promises peace, prosperity, fruitfulness, His dwelling among them, and security in their land, confirming His covenant. Curses (v. 14-39): If Israel disobeys brings escalating curses: disease, famine, defeat by enemies, wild animals, drought, and eventual exile and desolation of the land. Restoration (v. 40-46): Even in exile, if Israel confesses their sins, God promises to remember His covenant and bring them back, demonstrating His enduring faithfulness and mercy.

Chapter 27's specific laws on vows and tithes, showing how people should dedicate their lives and resources to God, ultimately pointing toward God's constant love and provision for His people despite their failures. Rules for redeeming people dedicated to God, with valuations based on age and gender. Specific guidelines for dedicating and redeeming clean and unclean animals. Regulations for redeeming fields and houses dedicated to the Lord, including principles for the Year of Jubilee. The Tithe: Reiteration that a tenth of produce and livestock belongs to the Lord, with rules for redemption if necessary. In our day it is more with time, and finances.

These chapters focus on the faithfulness to God brings life and blessing, while disobedience brings severe, but corrective, discipline, all within the framework of God's eternal covenant, with hope for repentance and restoration always present.

Putting the Word to work

What are some other "if and then" promises you are aware of in the Bible?

February 11
God is a God of Order
Numbers 1-2

The book of Numbers was authored by Moses. It details the Israelites journey through the wilderness towards the promised land. In Numbers 1-2 there was a divine directive given by God to Moses to conduct a census. Our God is a God of order. This census was given for a few different reasons including, but not limited to, God highlighting the importance of everyone being in the community. Secondly, to place people from each tribe into groups of people to be prepared for battles that may occur, and settlement once the land was conquered. Any male age 20 & above if useful for battle were counted. Thirdly it points to our God being highly strategic and expects us to learn how to order ourselves according to His manner, including the arrangement of how we set up camp and where we plant our tent.

Recognize your value in the kingdom of God. Paul writes in Ephesians 2 that we are *“19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”* Your location, and being planted in the House of the Lord are essential for both your success in inheriting the promised land God has for you, winning battles you’ll face and discovering your place of service in the kingdom..

Putting the Word to Work

If you were to rank, how essential you are in the camp, in being a part of The Father’s House, what rank would you give yourself?

As a pastor I want you to know that I look at you as a 10 of 10 on the scale of importance. Together we get to be “the habitation of God in the Spirit.” If your answer is less than a 10, consider what it would take to lift that number higher. If it is something in you, a perspective, a feeling an attitude (as God knows we all have to deal with ourselves from time to time) then seek the Lord on the right adjustment. If it is something outside of your control, do not bring it to people who cannot address the issue (that is gossip) but bring it to the leaders God has placed in your life and invite their assistance to help you work towards bridging that gap.

February 12

The priesthood

Today's Bible Reading - Numbers 3-4

*Numbers 3:5 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 6 "Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may serve him. 7 And they shall **attend to his needs and the needs of the whole congregation** before the tabernacle of meeting, to **do the work of the tabernacle**. 8 Also they shall **attend to all the furnishings** of the tabernacle of meeting, and to the needs of the children of Israel, to do the work of the tabernacle. 9 And you shall give the Levites to Aaron and his sons; they are given entirely to him from among the children of Israel. 10 So you shall appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall attend to their priesthood; **but the outsider who comes near shall be put to death.**"*

As God was training the nation of Israel to be his representatives on the earth, He instructed Moses to build the Tabernacle and initiate what is called the "Levitical Priesthood" deriving its name from the tribe of Levi who was assigned the task of the priesthood. This priestly assignment had, as noted above, the responsibilities of the "work of the tabernacle," and "attending to the furnishing of the tabernacle." As you study more on the Tabernacle you will recognize that the Tabernacle was the place the presence and Glory of God would dwell. It was God's way of dwelling as close to man as He could.

The priests therefore had 2 basic assignments. First, they were to represent the people before God. Aside from maintaining the Tabernacle, this would also include prayer and intercession on behalf of the nation. Conducting and presenting the sacrifices ensuring the right standing of the people in the eyes of the nation. Secondly, they were to represent God to the people. They were entrusted with the instruction and the judging of the nation. Their answers were received with the weight as if they came from the throne of God as they were expected (like Moses) to accurately represent the wisdom of Almighty God on the earth. To ensure proper authority structures, God was very strict on who was allowed to be a priest. That no "outsider" could self-appoint themselves into that office. Outsiders who pushed their way into positions outside of God's authority lines were to be executed. Keeping the lines of authority in tact were extremely important to the Lord.

In the New Testament, Jesus warns His disciples of only 7 categories of people. Interestingly enough, none of those are people often thought with negative lifestyles. All 7 are rooted in spiritual pride and push to sit in seats of authority. The Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians, Scribes & Lawyers, Nicolaitans, False Prophets and Jezebel - the "self-appointed prophetess" (Rev. 2:20).

Putting the Word to Work

It is essential we discover the Call of God for our lives and avoid the sin of pride where men and women often try to elevate themselves into positions of prominence. "Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God and He will exalt you in due time" (James 4:10). The Call is more about who you are than just what you do. What does God call you?

February 13

The Aaronic Blessing

Today's Bible Reading - Numbers 5-6

*Numbers 6:22 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: 24 "The Lord bless you and keep you; 25 The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; 26 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace." ' 27 "So **they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.**"*

At the end of today's reading we come to an instruction given by God to the first High Priest, Aaron where God instructed Aaron and His sons (the levitical priesthood) to "bless" the children of Israel. As we briefly described yesterday, part of the assignment of the priesthood was to represent God on the earth. This "blessing" then must be understood that this was a declaration coming from God Himself to the people. It echoes the heart of God from the beginning. You will recall when God created man, the first thing He did was to "bless them" (Gen. 1:26-28). In Genesis 12 and 22 God spoke to Abram and about His offspring that He would "Bless them." Now here in Numbers 6, God's representatives in Israel the priesthood is given an assignment to declare over the nation of Israel a "blessing" from the Lord. In doing so, the priests will be inscribing God's name on the children of Israel and as a result God will bless them - wow!

This blessing of the Lord through the hands of Aaron and His sons was a declaration of the empowerment (bless) of heaven to fulfill and do the will of God on the earth. It was a declaration of protection (keep) as God would guard, protect, defend and fight for them, His people. Make His face shine upon you. This is a statement describing the attitude of God towards the people of Israel. A shining face as opposed to a hardened or an angered face. Be gracious. Grace is not just God's divine covering, but includes His divine empowerment. Give you peace (shalom) which means nothing missing and nothing broken.

Putting the Word to Work

Spend a few minutes in prayer today (and regularly) receiving this same blessing in your life. Thank God for His blessing, for keeping you, for making His face shine upon you, for giving you grace and peace.

February 14

Obedience belongs to us

Today's Bible Reading Numbers 7

Numbers 7:89 "... The Lord spoke to him from there"

At first glance, Numbers 7 feels like a chapter we're tempted to skim. It's long. It's repetitive. The offerings are exactly the same each time, and nothing seems to change from one paragraph to the next. Twelve leaders brought the same offering to the Lord. God could have summarized it in one single sentence, but instead, He wrote down every name, every tribe, and every gift. One by one, with every detail. Why? Because God does not blur obedience together.

Even when the offerings looked the same, the obedience belonged to the people. And the Lord wanted it known that He saw who brought it. Your obedience is never anonymous to Him. Imagine for a minute you are the seventh or eighth tribe to bring your offering. By that point you've noticed that each offering is identical. By then it may no longer have felt special, or new. Maybe it even felt routine, the tribes were simply doing what had been asked of them. Yet God still recorded it.

This says a lot about the heart of the Father. He notices every faithful gift, even when it feels ordinary, even when it feels routine, even when it feels unimpressive. And what is even more impressive? This long chapter isn't just about being seen, it's about what God was building. Numbers 7 marks the dedication of the altar, the place where God would meet His people. Before God spoke audibly to Moses in the Tent of Meeting, there were pages of faithful obedience. Quiet obedience. Uncelebrated obedience. Holiness was built slowly. Numbers 7 reminds us that sacred spaces are built through consistency, not excitement. God records what we are tempted to rush past.

Putting the Word to Work

What has started to feel ordinary in your life? What are you tempted to skim through?

Remember this, obedience that feels ordinary is often how God builds holy things in us and through us. Don't rush the ordinary. Challenge yourself to stay faithful even in the small everyday tasks.

Week Two Sermon Notes

Week Two Sermon Notes

Date: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Series *(if applicable)*: _____

Scripture(s)	Things I want to remember	Things I want to study further

Week Two Sermon Notes

Date: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Series (if applicable): _____

Scripture(s)	Things I want to remember	Things I want to study further

Week Three

Week Three Prayer Notes

<p>Specific things I am praying about for my family.</p>	<p>Specific things I am praying about for people in my church.</p>
<p>Things I sense from the Holy Spirit while I pray.</p>	<p>People I am praying for their salvation.</p>

February 15

God Guides

Today's Bible Reading - Numbers 8-12

Numbers 9:6-13 Now there were certain men who were defiled by a human corpse, so that they could not keep the Passover on that day; and they came before Moses and Aaron that day. 7 And those men said to him, "We became defiled by a human corpse. Why are we kept from presenting the offering of the Lord at its appointed time among the children of Israel?" 8 And Moses said to them, "Stand still, that I may hear what the Lord will command concerning you." 9 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 10 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying 'If anyone of you or your posterity is unclean because of a corpse, or is far away on a journey, he may still keep the Lord's Passover. 11 On the fourteenth day of the second month, at twilight, they may keep it. They shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 12 They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break one of its bones. According to all the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it. 13 But the man who is clean and is not on a journey, and ceases to keep the Passover, that same person shall be cut off from among his people, because he did not bring the offering of the Lord at its appointed time; that man shall bear his sin.

Yes, our God is a God of order, but is it not wonderful to know that God knows that there were legitimate conflicts that man would have to navigate and He would make a way. Notice the process that happens in this short passage of Scripture. First, Passover is a big deal. This is not just a moment to reflect and remember God's grace and mercy in His divine deliverance from Egypt, but it was also a time where the Passover Lambs were offered unto the Lord, and established the Mercy of God over their nation and their homes over the coming year. The process for participating required people to be "ceremonially" clean. Here we have an example of men who are coming to God with great concern. Their heart is to fully participate and be obedient to the Word of the Lord, but their life has exposed them to death (a corpse) which makes them unclean for a season and they are not allowed to participate. Notice what Moses does, "Stand still and let me ask the Lord what to do concerning you and your situation." God is situationally aware. He doesn't excuse them from participating, but creates a way for them to still participate. As you read on you will notice a big difference between this situation and others who would just blow-off the commands of God. They were not given grace and mercy. But brought judgment upon themselves.

There are times I have heard people make a statement in effort to justify disobedience to God's instructions with a statement like, "God knows my heart." We must make sure, if we make that kind of statement that it is coming from a place that is saying, "God knows my heart is to obey Him fully, but I am not sure what to do concerning this situation, help me know what to do God."

Putting the Word to Work

Have you ever attempted to excuse disobedience to the Lord? How do you guard yourself against that trap?

February 16

Grasshoppers or Bread?

Today's Bible Reading - Number 11-13

Numbers 13:27 Then they told him, and said: "We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. 28 Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there. 29 The Amalekites dwell in the land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan." 30 Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it."

*31 But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." 32 And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. 33 There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in **our own sight**, and so we were in their sight."*

As the spies return to Moses and the camp of Israel, there is a conflicted report. On the one hand we read the great report of the abundance of the land. A land flowing with milk and honey, A single cluster of grapes was so large, it was hung on a pole and carried by two grown men, strong soldiers of Israel. But on the other hand you can almost hear the spirit of fear coming through their language, "the people who dwell in the land are strong." "Cities are fortified and large." The land full of "giants" for the "descendants of Anak" dwelt there. The very land "devours its inhabitants." And the telltale phrase identifying the loud voice of the spirit of fear when they reports "We were like grasshoppers in our own sight." Joshua and Caleb were of a different spirit, in chapter 14 Caleb would declare "they are our bread."

Until the Lord returns, we will experience the clashing of kingdoms. The enemy's only hope lies in the lead up to the conflict, pushing the people of God to listen more to the spirit of fear, to listen to what the enemy says rather than what God says. Whichever voice we pay heed to will determine the direction we lean and move.

Putting the Word to Work

Which voice is louder in your heart and mind today, the voice of the Lord, or the voice of fear?

February 17
Fear and the plans of God
Numbers 14 & 15

What a tragic time for the nation of Israel. Joshua, Caleb and the other spies have returned from the Promise Land. They were carrying a single bunch of grapes on a pole between two of them. The land had an abundance of everything that God had promised it would have. Joshua and Caleb both believed that with the help of God, Israel was well able to take the land. However, the fear that the other ten spies generated amongst the nation overruled the faith of these two warriors. The ten convinced an entire nation to abandon the promises of God and yearn for a return to the slavery that they new in Egypt.

God was not pleased. In our world today, there are many different ways that the enemy will try and frighten you into believing that the promises of God are not for us today. With wars and rumors of wars, threats of economic collapse, pestilence and disease and the ever-present fear of failure, we have every opportunity to back off our belief in God's promises, and wallow in the self-pity that tries to overcome us. Don't do it!

In chapter 14, we see how God responded to the acts of the nation of Israel. He removed His hand of providence and allowed them to act out their fears. We should note here that He did not abandon them completely, but He allowed them to see what happens when His favor is not present. They still had manna to eat and clothes on their backs, but they had to return to the wilderness and wander another forty years before they had another chance to claim the promises He had given them.

Likewise, today, when we allow fear to enter our lives, it chokes out vision that God has given you. The promises of God are very similar to God's plan of salvation. Jesus died on the cross to redeem mankind from the curse. Our sins are forgiven, and eternal life is ours to possess. However, we must believe and trust in the promise that God has given us. All of the other promises of God are available to us today, but we must combat our fears and reach out and claim them. How do you combat your fears? By developing your relationship with Him and staying in prayer and study of God's Word. The closer you get to Him, the less fear has a chance to overtake you.

Putting the Word to Work

The next time you have an opportunity to fear, and you will have that opportunity, take it to God in prayer. Tell Him what it is that is trying to frighten you, and relax in His presence and love.

February 18

The Rebellion of Korah

Today's Bible Reading Numbers 16-17

Numbers 16:9,10 - Is it a small thing to you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel to bring you near to Himself, to do the work of the tabernacle of the Lord, and to stand before the congregation to serve them; and that He has brought you near to Himself, you and all your brethren, the sons of Levi, with you? And are you seeking the priesthood also?

There was discontent in the camp of the Israelites. Korah, of the tribe of Levi, had been assigned by God to do the work of the tabernacle, to care for the tent of meeting. He met with his friends, Dathan, Abiram and On, of the tribe of Reuben, also discontented fellows, and in agreement, spoke among themselves against the leadership of Moses and Aaron.

Discontent spreads like a virus among people who are like-minded. Those fellows were able to spread that virus of criticism and discontent to 250 Israelite leaders. They went together to confront Moses accusing him of exalting himself over all of them.

Moses immediately, upon hearing their accusation, fell on his face before them in humility and anguish.

We have to remember that Moses never asked for this job (see Exodus 3) in the first place.

The result of this rebellion is that the earth opened up supernaturally and swallowed Korah and his friends plus the 250 leaders along with their entire households. Quite a high price to pay for coming against leadership appointed by God Himself!

Putting the Word to Work

It is a serious matter to speak against God's anointed. We are to give honor and respect to those in leadership over us, and to give God thanks for those men and women He has sent to lead and care for us.

February 19

To Whom Much is Given, Much is Required

Today's Bible Reading - Numbers 18-20

Numbers 20:7 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 8 "Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals." 9 So Moses took the rod from before the Lord as He commanded him. 10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock; and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?" 11 Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank. 12 Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them." 13 This was the water of Meribah, because the children of Israel contended with the Lord, and He was hallowed among them.

Moses did so many mighty and great things for the nation of Israel, yet we find here the time that He violated God's instruction. While we want to look at Moses' life and weigh all of His actions and say this seems very harsh there is a principle that to whom much is given, much is required. God had done so many things through the hand of His Friend Moses, that this mistake caused God to have to set him down and bring the nation in by the hand of Joshua instead of Moses.

Many might ask, does this mean that Moses was rejected from salvation? No! In fact, Moses would continue to be used by God many times, and would even get his chance to enter into the promised land. If you recall the famous moment on the Mount of Transfiguration recorded in Mark 9, you will see that Moses still got to enter the promised land however, He did not get to lead the people into the promised land.

Do not over consume yourselves looking for errors and reasons to disqualify other people. Every action, even the motives of our hearts are wide-open and visible before the Lord. He will bear the responsibility of judging the people of the earth.

Putting the Word to Work

Ask the Lord to search you, try your thoughts and ideas and see if there is anything in you that needs to be corrected, or adjusted. We want to be pleasing in our life and leadership so we can walk in all the promised land He would have us to.

February 20

The Hebrews in the Wilderness

Today's Bible Reading - Numbers 21-22

I am amazed at God's detail and precision in the Book of Numbers as He directs every task. It is estimated that more than 3 million Israelites (plus women and children) traversed the wilderness for forty years. They didn't 'wander,' God directed every move. Imagine the fear at seeing that entourage approaching your village.

Stories included in chapter 20 include:

- The Canaanites Defeated at Hormah. As the Israelites approached Canaan in the wilderness, their king brought forces against them. The Israelites vowed to God that if He would deliver them, they would destroy the cities of Canaan. And it was so.
- The Bronze Serpent (4-9). The people complained of no food or water but only Manna. God sent fiery serpents against them and many died. When they repented, God told Moses to fashion a fiery serpent, put it on a pole and if anyone bitten looked at it, they lived.
- The journey from Mount Hor to Moab. The route the Israelites traveled in the wilderness is described. When God provided water with a well dug by leaders, in verses 17-18 they sang, "Spring Up O Well..." From Moab's border on to Mount Pisgah that overlooks the wasteland.
- The defeat of King Sihon and King Og. As in other places, Israel asked permission to cross the land of the Amorites who denied and attacked them, but Israel took all the cities. Thus, Israel dwelt in the land and drove out the Amorites. As they moved on, they were attacked by king Og. The Lord told Moses, "I have delivered him to you, with his people and land. Do to him as you did to the Amorites." So the Israelites defeated them, with no survivor left; and they took the land.

Chapter 22 introduces one of the characters, given as an example for centuries to come including by the New Testament authors - Balaam. The Israelites camped in Moab beside the Jordan across from Jericho. The Moabites saw the destruction of the Amorites and were greatly afraid. They sought Balaam to prophesy against the Israelites, but Balaam was forbidden it by God. There is the famous moment, when Balaam's donkey speaks to Him. At Moab, king Balak asked Balaam to curse the Israelites, but he said something pivotal, "The word that God puts in my mouth, that I must speak." All true prophetic declarations originate from God.

Putting the Word to Work

If God was willing to give a "word," would you be open to hearing it, sharing it to the best of your ability? Has it ever happened before? What was it like? If not, what do you think it might that look like? Have a conversation with someone you trust who has experienced this before and share your thoughts.

Week Three Sermon Notes

Week Three Sermon Notes

Date: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Series (if applicable): _____

Scripture(s)	Things I want to remember	Things I want to study further

Week Three Sermon Notes

Date: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Series *(if applicable)*: _____

Scripture(s)	Things I want to remember	Things I want to study further

Week Four to the End of the Month

Week Four to the End of the Month Prayer Notes

<p>Specific things I am praying about for my family.</p>	<p>Specific things I am praying about for people in my church.</p>
<p>Things I sense from the Holy Spirit while I pray.</p>	<p>People I am praying for their salvation.</p>

February 21

Help Is On The Way

Today's Bible Reading Numbers 23-25

Numbers 24:17 "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but He is not near. A star shall come forth out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel and shall crush all the corners of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth [Moab's sons of tumult]. (Amplified Bible)

In these chapters we discover that help is on the way no matter what it looks like. Jehovah is going to show up. Balaam was offered much to curse the Israelites, but every time before the Lord all he could do was bless them. Numbers 23:8a "How can I curse those God has not cursed?" Balak, king of Moab, questioned Balaam in vs.11. In vs.12, "And Balaam answered. Must I not be obedient and speak what the Lord has put in my mouth?" (Amp) In vs.19, "God is not a man, that He should tell or act a lie, neither the son of man that He should feel repentance or compunction [for what He has promised]. Has He said and shall He not do it? Or has He spoken and shall He not make it good? (Amp) vs.20, " You see I have received His command to bless Israel. He has blessed and I cannot reverse or qualify it." (Amp) In vs. 26, "But Balaam answered Baak, did I not say to you, All the Lord speaks, that must I do?"

In chapter 24:1 Balaam saw that it pleased the Lord to bless Israel. In vs. 4, he hears the words of God. Vs. 13: "If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the command of the Lord, to do either good or bad of my own will, but what the Lord says, that will I speak?" In vs. 16: Balaam has a vision of the Almighty.

The scepter is the Messiah Jesus. He brings perfect Justice, Righteousness, and Salvation conquering spiritual foes. Jesus has Royal authority and rule. Not only is He our Savior & King. He wants to be our best friend. To rest in Him. He wants to supply all your needs. Philippians 4:19 "And my God shall supply your every need according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." God will fulfill your needs, spiritual, physical and emotional.

Romans 10:17 "So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah himself).: In Psalm 37:4, He said He would give you the desires of your heart.

Putting the Word to Work

1. Do you question God?

2. God said He would do it! Shall He not make it good?

February 22

Census and new leadership

Today's Bible Reading Numbers 26-27

These chapters mark a major transition for Israel: a second census to count the new generation of Israelite men (20+ years old) ready to conquer Canaan ready to enter the Promised Land replacing those who perished due to unbelief. old generation had died off in the wilderness, highlighting the consequences of sin and a fresh start. Here Moses records the population numbers for each tribe, revealing significant drops (like Simeon) from the first census, emphasizing judgment but also a fresh start for the next. It's a sober reminder of past sins and practical preparation for dividing the land and organizing the army for war.

Chapter 27 introduces the daughters of Zelophehad, five women whose father died without sons petition Moses for their family's land. A groundbreaking request that leads to the establishment a law for female inheritance. Then there is God's appointment of Joshua as the new leader, preparing Israel for a new shepherd as Moses nears the end of his life and leadership. Moses's Succession: Facing his own impending death (not entering the land), Moses prays for a leader, showing selflessness and concern for the people. Joshua Appointed: God chooses Joshua ("the LORD saves"), a man filled with the Spirit, to lead Israel into the Promised Land, signifying a new era of faith and salvation.

Putting the Word to Work

These chapters bridge the wilderness wandering with the conquest of Canaan, focusing on accounting for the people, addressing social issues (inheritance), and securing future leadership.

It's about God's faithfulness to His promises, even after judgment, and the need for new faith and new leaders for the next phase.

February 23

Worship

Today's Reading: Numbers 28-30

Numbers 28-30 is an account of offerings the Israelites should make as they prepare to enter the promised land. Chapter 30 also speaks of vows & promises. As I was reading it the song "the 12 days of Christmas" kept coming to my mind. I was wondering why, and then the first part of the song that says "on the 12 days of Christmas my true love gave to me." The thought hit me, what have I given God lately? These lists of things in these chapters are all things that they are to sacrifice to God. Showing their devotion & trust. These elements were foundational to the Israelites worship. Have I surrendered fully? Have I brought my whole self? Or have I held back from giving all he has required of me?

What things do we have that are foundational to our worship?

- Intentional intellectual and emotional connection. Worship should not be just ritualistic. There should be a connection between your heart and mind & God's. He created every part of our beings.
- Humility and honoring - God is worthy of us extolling Him to a place of worth and basing our worship on His Words.
- Personal actions - Worship is an action verb that is personal between you & Him. Not what you think would look or sound good to others.
- Honest Worship - This is a time of you focusing on what you really feel about God. It's not drama, it's not excuses. It's the reality of who you are in Christ.
- Personal surrender - Worship is a time where we yield to what God is speaking, showing or even requesting of us.

Putting the Word to Work

How frequently do you find yourself in a heart and attitude of worship?

February 24

Fighting for your brothers inheritance

Today's Bible Reading - Numbers 31-32

Numbers 32:16 Then they came near to him and said: "We will build sheepfolds here for our livestock, and cities for our little ones, 17 but we ourselves will be armed, ready to go before the children of Israel until we have brought them to their place; and our little ones will dwell in the fortified cities because of the inhabitants of the land. 18 We will not return to our homes until every one of the children of Israel has received his inheritance. 19 For we will not inherit with them on the other side of the Jordan and beyond, because our inheritance has fallen to us on this eastern side of the Jordan."

One lesson I think we can draw from this particular passage of Scripture we have read today, deals with the tribes who had an inheritance on this side of the Jordan River. They were commanded that even though they were the first to receive their land of inheritance they still needed to fight on behalf of their brethren.

One of the saddest experiences I have had (more than once) when it comes time to do a funeral for a person, is when families begin to fight over who gets what as an inheritance. It seems to me that too often selfish desires infiltrate as people get so focused on getting everything they can for themselves and forget about the inheritance of their brothers and sisters. I appreciate the tribal leaders from Reuben and Gad who declare that until all of our brothers have fully possessed their lot in the promised land, we will continue to fight on their behalf.

Oh that we would carry that attitude into every aspect of our lives, a willingness to fight for our brothers and sisters in the Lord to inherit all that God has promised each and every one of us. To avoid the creep of selfish desires.

Putting the Word to Work

Who are you fighting for besides yourself and your nearest of family?

February 25

God is a God of borders and boundaries

Today's Bible Reading - Numbers 33-34

Numbers 34:1-2 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Command the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you come into the land of Canaan, this is the land that shall fall to you as an inheritance—the land of Canaan to its boundaries.

Whether it be natural borders setting one people group apart from another, or if it be spiritual laws and boundaries it cannot be overstated that our God is a God of order. A God who establishes borders and boundaries. I have learned that honoring the boundaries God sets in place opens the windows of heaven in my life.

I remember growing up in a home that valued God's boundaries when it comes to finances. Boundaries of tithing, giving and stewardship. I have not always been perfect in each of these areas, but here has been my experiences and observations.

1. Tithing - the first tenth belongs to God and it is my responsibility to bring it to Him (not give it to Him as it is His already). As I have learned to be a faithful and consistent in tithes I can honestly say, I have never been in a situation where I have been without what I needed. Every need I have ever had has been met. In fact the longer I have consistently been a tither, the more I have discovered God's abundance and provision. Even in times when I have not been as good at stewardship God has corrected and protected me in those seasons and got me back on track without it taking a major catastrophe.
2. Giving - offerings are not the same thing as a tithe. Generosity is a boundary we as believers need to cultivate. Offerings come from the heart of the believer not as an obligation but as the overflow from the heart. As I have learned to be generous, God has blessed us with extra seed to sow.
3. Stewardship is the management assignment we have of the resources God has blessed us with. This is not just in our tithes and offerings, but how we care for the rest. Good stewardship enables us to multiply the effectiveness of the things God places in our hands. God expects us to be good and faithful stewards of what He has placed in our hands.

Putting the Word to Work

How are you doing in the areas of Tithing, giving (generosity) and stewardship?

February 26

Worthy of their hire

Today's Bible Reading - Numbers 35-36

The Levites were chosen by God to be the priesthood for the nation of Israel. They were to do the work of the ministry. They offered the daily sacrifices, kept the show bread fresh, kept the lamp oil filled, and they kept the temple clean and polished. They were also in charge of the temple treasury. They received the tithes and offerings and paid the workers for any maintenance to the temple facilities.

1 Timothy 5:18 says, "For the Scripture says, 'You shall not muzzle an ox while it tread out the grain', and 'the laborer is worthy of his wages.'" In our passage of scripture for today God sets out provision for the priesthood. The Levites did not go out to battle to conquer territory for themselves, so the twelve tribes of Israel were responsible for setting aside portions of their inheritance for the priesthood. Each tribe was to set apart certain towns along with the pasture and farmland adjacent to them for the use of the families of the Levites. In this way the priesthood would have a home and a place to raise their flocks and herds, as well as a place to grow produce and grain for their food.

Likewise, we as a church body, set aside our tithes and offerings to pay a salary for those that are called and chosen to serve in the church as leaders and workers to provide us with a place to worship and gather to study and learn about God's Word. One of the most difficult positions for a pastor or teacher to be in is to have the responsibility for the raising up of a congregation within God's church and must work at a full-time job on the side. The twelve told the congregation in Jerusalem in Acts 6:2 – "...It is not desirable that we should leave the Word of God and serve tables." It is the responsibility of the congregation to supply for the needs of those that have been appointed over them.

In this same passage of scripture, we find provision made for the sanctuary cities. Each region would appoint certain cities, dedicated to the Levites, and designate them sanctuary cities. Unlike the sanctuary cities of today, these were designed to give a person who had committed the crime of manslaughter, accidentally killing another person, a place to seek sanctuary until his case could be heard by the congregation. In those days, if you killed someone accidentally, the avenger, a relative of the deceased was allowed to seek vengeance against you and take your life. This gave the person accused an opportunity to present his case.

Putting the Word to Work

When you give your tithe to the church, remember that among other things, you are providing for our pastors so they will have time to seek the Holy Spirit for direction on what to teach, and for the staff to be able to prepare lessons for your children, and to ensure that you have a safe, clean and healthy environment to worship in.

February 27

From Exodus to the Edge of inheriting

Today's Bible Reading - Deuteronomy 1-2

*Deuteronomy 1:1-3 These are the words which Moses spoke to all Israel on this side of the Jordan in the wilderness, in the plain opposite Suph, between Paran, Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth, and Dizahab. 2 **It is eleven days' journey** from Horeb by way of Mount Seir to Kadesh Barnea. 3 Now **it came to pass in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month**, that Moses spoke to the children of Israel according to all that the Lord had given him as commandments to them*

Deuteronomy is the fifth book of the Bible and part of what is commonly referred to as the "Torah" or the "The Law." This, the fifth book, inspired by God and written by the hand of Moses, is a series of sermons given by Moses recounting the history of their journey from Exodus to the edge of the promised land. Here Moses is reminding the people of how their 40 year journey has included some of the greatest God encounters ever recorded and some of the worst failures of man. He is preparing the nation for his departure and the installation of a new leader, Joshua.

Moses opens this book with a very sobering truth. In the 3rd verse of this amazing book when he notes the date, The 1st day of the 11th month in the 40th year as they have finally completed what could have been an 11 day journey (see verse 2). From the beginning of Deuteronomy he is announcing to this new generation, you could have grown up in the promised land in your own houses, running your own farms but instead you have had to grow up in the wilderness.

If I could encourage you with one word this morning it would be this, do not put off your inheritance for fear of the battles you may face along the way. I have often said how blessed I am to have grown up, not in a perfect home, but in the home of parents who had made the decision two years before I was born that they were going to serve the Lord. The giants they slew in their day, has made for a much better life for me. My dad got born again, and almost immediately decided he would never consume alcohol again. No one told him that, he just knew he needed to quit. So I grew up in an environment where that was never a temptation and never got a hold of me. He broke free from that issue that was multiple generations deep. His victory created a freedom I have enjoyed my entire life.

The battles you win affect not just your life, but set up the next generation for success and victories they will never have to face. Now I have had my own giants to conquer, but I am building upon the successes of a previous generation. Do not avoid a giant in your own generation, face them with God's grace, conquer them with the power of His name, and the power of the blood.

Putting the Word to Work

Are there any giants you have been avoiding?

February 28

Obedience - the price of possession

Today's Bible Reading - Deuteronomy 3-4

*Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 5-6, 9a "Now, O Israel, **listen** to the statutes and the judgments which I teach you to **observe**, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers is giving you. 2 You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, **that you may keep** the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you...5 "Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the Lord my God commanded me, **that you should act according to them** in the land which you go to possess. 6 Therefore **be careful to observe them**; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'...9 Only **take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself***

A great question to ask ourselves as we continue this reading into Deuteronomy and hear of how God brought Moses out of Egypt and yet did not allow him into the promised land. Is salvation about escaping hell or receiving heaven? This is not an "either or" question; the answer would simply be "yes." I ask the question however because the inclination of your answer depicts a lot about your perspective on life. If we live with an attitude of "escapism" that the end result of our life is simply to get out of a bad situation, in my opinion we leave a lot left on the table that is available in the life of a believer. I do not go through this life thinking "how little must I do to escape hell." My life perspective is centered around this idea, that I do not want to miss out on anything God has in store for me. I want everything Jesus bought and paid for on the cross.

I have found that "believing" is the foundation for salvation and that "obedience" is the price for possessing all the promises on earth. Samuel told Saul, "obedience is better than sacrifice" (See I Sam. 15:22). Obedience determines whether or not we will enter into everything God has in store for us as believers. Notice how many times in the verses mentioned above, Moses urges the people to "listen," "observe," "keep," "act accordingly," "diligently keep." These are all words that describe supreme need to hear the way in which we should live and then obediently follow. I would urge you to develop a mentality in life of "radical obedience." The kind of obedience to the Word of God that says I will obey God regardless of what it looks like. That's the kind of obedience that faces giants, parts the seas, walks on water, forgives even when I'm right all because God said to. That is the kind of obedience that possess the promised land.

Putting the Word to Work

What would one act of radical obedience look like for you today?

Week Four Sermon Notes

Week Four Sermon Notes

Date: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Series (if applicable): _____

Scripture(s)	Things I want to remember	Things I want to study further

Week Four Sermon Notes

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For more information about The Father's House, you can check out our website:

thefathershouseint.org or on Facebook or our YouTube channel. Weekly we gather:

Sunday	9 am & 11 am - Sunday Worship Experience
Tuesday	9 am - Prayer meeting
Wednesday	9 am - Prayer meeting 5:30 pm - Family dinner at 5:30 6:30 pm - Wednesday Worship Experience
Thursday	9 am - Prayer meeting
Friday	6 pm - Freedom Night 7 pm - Prayer meeting
Saturday	6 pm - Prayer Meeting

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