



God's Power

BELIEVERS CAN LIVE WITHOUT FEAR KNOWING
THAT THEY SERVE THE ONE TRUE GOD.

Scripture Passage: Deuteronomy 33:1-5,26-29 Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 33:29

For many Christians, life is a struggle between believing God's promises and surviving personal circumstances. God's Word assures us that He will never abandon us (Heb. 13:5) and that He is working all things together for our good and for His glory (Rom. 8:28). However, in difficult situations, it's easy to wonder if He is truly with us. We may struggle to see His purpose in trials. Christians need to remember the times God has shown Himself faithful. Doing so encourages us to trust Him more in the next challenge.

In Deuteronomy 33, Moses reminded the people of the greatness of their God. The Lord had led them from Egypt to the promised land, and He would continue to lead them in the days ahead. Moses assured them they would know security in the land He had given them because He is a faithful God.

As you study this final session from Numbers and Deuteronomy, allow God to provide His peace in the middle of your doubts and struggles. Also, be sensitive to adults in your Bible study who are struggling with fear over their own circumstances. Pray for them and ask God to use you to help them recall His faithfulness in their lives.



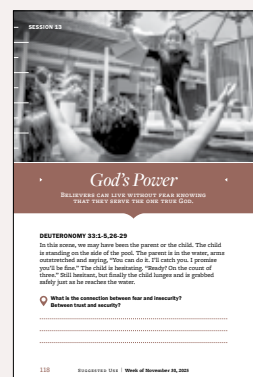
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In this scene, we may have been the parent or the child. The child is standing on the side of the pool. The parent is in the water, arms outstretched and saying, “You can do it. I will catch you. I promise you’ll be fine.” The child is hesitating. “Ready? On the count of three.” Still hesitant, but finally the child lunges and is grabbed safely just as he reaches the water. (PSG, p. 118)

**What is the connection between fear and insecurity?
Between trust and security?**



Understand the Context (Deuteronomy 31:1–34:12)

Moses reminded the Israelites that he would not lead them into the promised land (Deut. 31:1-8). God had designated Joshua as his successor, and Moses encouraged the people to listen to Joshua as they prepared to enter Canaan. He also entrusted God’s Word to the priests, whom he reminded to read the law publicly every seven years at the Festival of Shelters (31:9-13).

Moses and Joshua came before the Lord at the tent of meeting (31:14-15). The Lord warned Moses of Israel’s coming failure, and He encouraged him to teach the people a song that recounted God’s blessings (31:16-22). The Lord also commissioned Joshua to lead (31:23). Moses again reminded the Levites of their responsibility to lead the people spiritually because Israel had a history of rebellion (31:24-30).

Moses’s song first highlighted God’s faithful provision and guidance (32:1-14). His people should know better than to reject the Lord after all He had done for them. He had determined the boundaries of all the nations, but He chose Israel as His special inheritance. He extended His tender care to them at every turn.

Second, Moses recalled Israel’s spiritual failures (32:15-27). When the people became satisfied, they forgot the Lord and turned to idols. They provoked God to jealousy, and He judged them.

Third, he sang of God’s coming vindication (32:28-43). The day would come when God would judge the nations who opposed Him. He would

demonstrate the powerlessness of other gods, for He was unique in the universe.

Moses encouraged the people to take all of God’s laws to heart, for God’s Word was life itself (32:44-47). When Moses finished, God led him up Mount Nebo, from where he could view the promised land before he died (32:48-52).

Moses’s final blessing over Israel included three parts. First, his blessing exalted God as Israel’s King (33:1-5). God had demonstrated His power in leading His people from Sinai to the promised land. Second, Moses addressed Israel’s twelve tribes by name (33:6-25). Each tribe had a special place in God’s purpose, and each would experience God’s blessings for obedience. Third, Moses again reminded Israel of God’s uniqueness (33:26-29). He was their dwelling place, and He would bring victory and provide security.

Deuteronomy’s closing verses mention Moses’s death and legacy (34:1-12). God’s leader died on Mount Nebo and God buried him there. He lived 120 years but remained strong until his death. The Israelites mourned for Moses thirty days. As Joshua assumed leadership of Israel (34:9), an amazing era in the history of God’s people had come to an end.

As you read through Deuteronomy 31:1–34:12, highlight the words that would have offered courage and comfort to the Israelites as they were about to enter Canaan. (PSG, p. 119)

ENGAGE



PREPARE: Display **Pack Item 2** (*Poster: Outlines of Numbers, Deuteronomy*) on a focal wall. Prepare copies of **Pack Item 8** (*Handout: Praying Scripture in Numbers, Deuteronomy*) and **Pack Item 14** (*Handout: Jesus and Deuteronomy*).

READ: Direct adults to read the opening paragraph on page 118 of the PSG.

ASK: **What is the connection between trust and security?** (PSG, p. 118)

DISCUSS: Facilitate a discussion on why people trust some people or groups and don't trust others. Draw two columns on the board: *Trust* and *Distrust*. Allow adults to share groups that might fall into each column. Encourage them to share why they would put a particular group in each column.

REVIEW: Point out **Pack Item 2** (*Poster: Outlines of Numbers, Deuteronomy*) and remind adults that you are coming to the end of a study of these two Bible books. Allow them to share ideas and action points from these studies that have made a difference in their lives.

TRANSITION: Share that the passage for this session comes from the section identified on the poster as “Final Days of Moses.” State that in Moses’s final words to the Israelites, he sought to prepare them for the next major events in their journey. He also reminded them why they had every reason to trust God as they moved forward into Canaan.



Group Activity Option

Music

Distribute the lyrics for “Days of Elijah” by Robin Mark. Lead adults to state what the song means to them, in particular, the reference to the “days of Moses” in the first verse. Play the song or a video of the song. If possible, guide adults to sing along. Invite a volunteer to lead in a prayer asking God to help adults have the courage and wisdom to seek security and blessing in the Lord’s presence alone.

King (Deut. 33:1-5)

1 This is the blessing that Moses, the man of God, gave the Israelites before his death. **2** He said: The LORD came from Sinai and appeared to them from Seir; he shone on them from Mount Paran and came with ten thousand holy ones, with lightning from his right hand for them. **3** Indeed he loves the people. All your holy ones are in your hand, and they assemble at your feet. Each receives your words. **4** Moses gave us instruction, a possession for the assembly of Jacob. **5** So he became King in Jeshurun when the leaders of the people gathered with the tribes of Israel.

(v. 1) Deuteronomy 33 rehearses the great *blessing* Israel received in the Jordan Valley. The one pronouncing the blessing was *Moses*, Israel's faithful leader and *the man of God*. This designation also occurs in the heading of Psalm 90. Moses had enjoyed the best Egypt offered, yet he chose to identify with his own people (Heb. 11:24-26). He initially struggled to accept God's call (Ex. 3-4); but once he did, he became a powerful leader through whom God worked.

Moses knew that *his death* was coming and that he would not enter Canaan (Num. 20:12). Consequently, this chapter contains Moses's last recorded message to *the Israelites*.

(v. 2) *The LORD came from Sinai* recalled how God had led His people to that mountain some forty years earlier (Ex. 19:1) and continued to lead them. Moses had ascended Sinai to receive the commands God had for His people (Ex. 19:20).

God also *appeared to them from Seir*, a mountain range southeast of Canaan in the land of Edom. The Edomites descended from Esau, Jacob's brother (Gen. 36:1). Israel asked permission to travel through Edom on their way to Canaan, but Edom's king refused (Num. 20:14-21).

Moses also proclaimed how God had *shone on them from Mount Paran*. Scholars do not agree on the exact location of Mount Paran, but they generally agree that it lay north of Mount Sinai along the way to Canaan. The mountain locations emphasize God's presence with Israel at every stage, accompanied by *ten thousand* angelic messengers, His *holy ones*.

(v. 3) The affirmation that God *loves the people* highlights the reason behind His dramatic display of power in the wilderness. Indeed, He showed His majesty, but He did so with a purpose: to bring His people safely and triumphantly to Canaan. He had chosen them and set His love on them (Deut. 7:7-8). The expression *holy ones* could

designate angels (as in v. 2), but here it more likely designates God's people. The expression *in your hand* stresses His tender care, while gathering at His *feet* portrays a humble nation ready to receive His *words*.

(v. 4) The word translated *instruction* is the Hebrew word *torah* (toe-RAH), which generally relates to God's teaching. Indeed, God's instruction meant more than mere words; it was Israel's life (Deut. 32:47). God's Word was to be the lens through which His people viewed the world (6:8).

The word *possession* comes from a root that can mean "inherit" (KJV "inheritance"). An inheritance normally is something family members receive, and the Israelites, *the assembly of Jacob*, were God's family.

(v. 5) The expression *became King* also has been rendered "was king." Of course, God was already King over all Israel, but the original text emphasizes that God had powerfully demonstrated Himself as King by leading His people from Sinai to Canaan.

• *Jeshurun* is a poetic reference to Israel. It comes from a root that means "straight" and carries the concept of uprightness and justice. Sadly, Israel did not always live up to this poetic name. Moses also mentioned how *the leaders* and *the tribes* came together. The reference may be to Mount Sinai, where the people together affirmed God's covenant (Ex. 24:7).

Key Doctrine

God

There is one and only one living and true God. (See Isaiah 46:9; 1 Timothy 2:5.)



APPLICATION POINT: Believers can trust in God's love for them.

READ: Invite a volunteer to read **Deuteronomy 33:1-5** while adults listen for the blessing that Moses spoke over Israel.

EXPLAIN:

Share this content from page 122 of the PSG to summarize the tone of verses 2-5 in the original language:

In verse 3, the pronouns change person from third person “he” to second person “you.” The shift indicates a heightened sense of intimacy and closeness. No longer were the words about God, they were to Him. God’s action and theirs—His holding and their listening—had caused the relationship to go deeper. God’s words came through Moses. He was the conduit through which God conveyed His message.

DEFINE:

Use information from verse 5 on page 144 in the Leader Guide to explain the meaning of “Jeshurun.” Note God’s desire to be the people’s righteous King with ultimate authority in their lives.

EXAMINE:

Distribute copies of **Pack Item 14** (*Handout: Jesus and Deuteronomy*). Guide adults to read a few of the Scriptures that show how Jesus taught from Deuteronomy. Encourage them to review the rest of the verses during the week.

ASK:

Why so you think the Bible portrays God in so many ways, such as a Warrior, King, and Shepherd? Which biblical portrait or title comes to mind first when you think of Him and why? (PSG, p. 123)

[illegible]

Group Activity Option

Bible Skill

Guide adults to find the Bible Skill activity on page 121 of the PSG. Encourage them to discuss how studying a passage helps them better understand a biblical truth. Lead them to read the passages about blessings mentioned in the Bible Skill and discuss the related questions. Point out that a strength of God's Word is its unity and how one passage may be better understood through the lens of another passage.

Dwelling Place (Deut. 33:26-29)

26 There is none like the God of Jeshurun, who rides the heavens to your aid, the clouds in his majesty. **27** The God of old is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He drives out the enemy before you and commands, “Destroy!” **28** So Israel dwells securely; Jacob lives untroubled in a land of grain and new wine; even his skies drip with dew. **29** How happy you are, Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD? He is the shield that protects you, the sword you boast in. Your enemies will cringe before you, and you will tread on their backs.

(v. 26) Moses’s profession that *there is none like the God of Jeshurun* proclaimed what God’s people should have understood clearly by that time. They had seen His great miracles in Egypt and in the wilderness. The unbelieving generation had died (Num. 14:28-35; 26:65), and now their descendants were about to receive the promise. No god of any other nation was like the God of Israel, and no other god had given its people instructions like Israel had received. The Lord was not merely one option among the many gods. He was the only option.

Moses also described God as riding *the heavens* to help His people. He had created the heavens and everything in them (Gen. 1:1), and He could use them to display His power and glory. Riding *the clouds in his majesty* provided a parallel image of His sovereignty.

(v. 27) The expression *God of old* connotes the Lord’s presence from throughout time. He spoke the world into existence and existed long before He called Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3). The prophet Habakkuk also used this Hebrew word to affirm God’s agelessness (Hab. 1:12), while Micah used it to describe Jesus the Messiah (Mic. 5:2).

This everlasting God was Israel’s *dwelling place*. God’s people would capture Canaan, but ultimately, their home would be with God. *The everlasting arms* highlights how God would support them and carry them in their relationship with Him. His presence was the supreme blessing that came from His covenant. Any *enemy* in Canaan would face God’s judgment, and He would *destroy* them (Lev. 18:24-25; Deut. 9:5).

(v. 28) The statement *dwells securely* may confirm Israel’s present state or the peace God’s people would enjoy once they settled the land. Moses may have been looking ahead to the end result, when God’s purposes for Israel were accomplished, and they found rest in Him.

References to *grain* and *wine* suggest a time when Israel would be established. These images often denote fertility and richness in the Old Testament. Solomon described wine as part of the harvest blessing that resulted from honoring the Lord with the firstfruits (Prov. 3:9-10). Skies that *drip with dew* also emphasize God’s abundant blessing, especially in a land where rainfall could be sparse during summer months.

(v. 29) Moses concluded by affirming *how happy you are, Israel*. The word translated “happy” is the same word that begins Psalm 1, which highlights the fulfilling life of the person who lives by God’s instructions. Israelites who chose to live in faithful devotion to God would experience that kind of life.

The question *who is like you?* is really more of a statement: “there is no people like you!” The Israelites had been *saved by the LORD*. God had saved His people physically from slavery in Egypt, but He would teach them about spiritual salvation, too. Generations later, in God’s perfect timing, Jesus’s death and resurrection secured salvation for all who place their faith in Him.

Moses used the words *shield* and *sword* to describe the Lord’s protection. He defended them against attack, and He fought for them. They would have a role to play in conquering Canaan, but ultimately the credit belonged to God (Josh. 21:43-45).

Israel’s *enemies* in Canaan would *cringe* as they accepted defeat. God’s people would *tread on their backs*, denoting Israel’s participation in the victory. Other translations render the word “backs” as “high places,” which may denote the high places on which the pagan Canaanites formerly worshiped. Either way, the emphasis is on God’s greatness and His purposes for His people.



READ:

APPLICATION POINT: Believers should find their security in God alone.

Invite a volunteer to read aloud Deuteronomy 33:26-29 as adults underline phrases that represent security for Israel.

SHARE:

Summarize this content from page 124 of the PSG to encourage adults to reflect on the power of Moses's blessing:

“Some commentators link God’s dwelling place with the heavens and clouds mentioned in verse 26. Thus, this verse highlights that God is above His people and His everlasting arms are beneath. Nothing could better picture God’s dependable protection and security for His people. Like a strong and loving Father, He safeguards His own in His caring embrace.”

DISCUSS:

Highlight “shield” and “sword” to illustrate God’s power and protection. Guide adults to discuss how God’s protection and His promise to fight for Israel was a source of comfort and security for the nation. Direct them to scan the verses again and call out the words they previously underlined when the Scripture was read. As each word or phrase is mentioned, ask adults to explain how it represents security for the nation.

ASK:

What does it teach us about God that He is our “dwelling place”? (PSG, p. 125)

Group Activity Option

Object Lesson: Shield

Display an image of a shield (or an actual shield if you can secure one). Ask how a shield provided a sense of security for Israel as they prepared to enter Canaan. Guide adults to call out other images in the text that represent security or protection. Ask: ***What promises did God make to the Israelites about things they would enjoy once they entered Canaan?***

CHALLENGE

SUMMARIZE:

List the following application points on the board from Apply the Text on page 126 of the *Personal Study Guide*:

- *Believers can trust in God's love for them.*
- *Believers should find their security in God alone.*

EVALUATE:

Lead adults to discuss how these application points are related to one another. Ask them to rank their own trust and security levels on a scale of one to five, with one being “needs work” and five being “on target.”

REFLECT:

Guide adults to review the first set of questions on page 126 in the PSG. Direct them to join two or three other people to discuss their thoughts about trust and security.

PRAY:

Distribute copies of **Pack Item 8** (*Handout: Praying Scripture in Numbers, Deuteronomy*) and ask adults to take a few moments to complete the handout. Invite volunteers to read the prayers they have written as you close the session.

AFTER THE SESSION

Text or email adults, suggesting they review and reflect on the chart for **Pack Item 14** (*Handout: Jesus and Deuteronomy*). Encourage them to continue their study of how Jesus referred to Deuteronomy during His ministry. Point out the article “Jesus’s Use of Deuteronomy” on page 127 of the PSG for further information. Challenge the group to find their security in life by placing their faith in Christ alone.

LEADER EXTRAS



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EXPLORE  THE BIBLE.

Praying Scripture

Dwayne McCrary

Growing up, the worship services in my church featured reading a Bible passage, followed by a pastoral prayer. The Bible passage may have been “read” in one of several ways. We may have listened to a passage being read to us, been asked to locate the passage in our Bibles and encouraged to follow along, or read the passage in some type of responsive format. The person leading that time would then voice a prayer that was based on the Bible passage we had just reviewed.

For example, if we read 1 Corinthians 13, the person praying may have emphasized the unfailing love of God and thanked Him for loving us even when we fail to love Him back. This person may have included a confession that our love was incomplete and asked for help to demonstrate love through our worship. I did not know it at the time, but our church was being taught to pray Scripture.

Why was it so important for us to let Scripture inform our prayers? One challenge of prayer is aligning our hearts with the heart of God. We know what we want, but we may not be sure about what He wants. When we use Scripture as the basis for our prayers, we align with God’s heart and desires.

One example of how this can work is seen in Jeremiah 12. The prophet Jeremiah began his prayer with a statement about God’s righteousness when a case is brought to Him. Jeremiah knew this by experience and through studying the Scriptures.



Scripture informed his prayer as he praised God for His consistent character and trustworthiness. Jeremiah then followed with a complaint about wicked people being blessed while God’s people suffered. The prophet was trying to align his heart (what he viewed as fair) with the heart of God (what God viewed as fair).

Praying Scripture also keeps prayer from being the same thing week after week. We read the list, update the list, read the list to God, then dismiss the group. It is an easy pattern to follow. But if we use the Bible passage studied that day to guide our prayer time, we remove the routine and potential boredom that comes with a routine.

As Bible study leaders, we can take the same initiative as the leaders in the local church in which I grew up to help the people in our groups learn to pray Scripture.

MODEL PRAYING SCRIPTURE

If we're not careful, we can fall into the habit of treating prayer time as creating a To Do list for God. We collect the needs and organize them so God will be aware of what He needs to do for us before we regather to create another To Do list for Him. We may still collect prayer needs, but we may do so focused on the passage studied that day.

For example, if we were studying Jeremiah 12, we may ask for people to share a recent event in which God's righteousness was seen and encourage the group to identify something going on in their lives that challenges their faith in God. We may then lead the prayer time stating that, like Jeremiah, we too know that God is righteous and point to what was shared. We could then explain that, like Jeremiah, we too face challenges that confuse us and voice the challenges shared by the group. We would want to make sure to conclude the prayer time by stating that we bring these requests with a desire to know God's heart and a commitment to follow Him faithfully. With this approach, we are letting the passage examined that day inform how we pray, providing a model for the group.

PROVIDE PRAYER PROMPTS

One thing I discovered while teaching preschoolers is that they expect you to stop and pray for someone when they mention it. They would rather not wait until the end of class. They would rather you pray for their need in the middle of walking, making a temple out of blocks, or forming two fishes and five loaves out of playdough. Why should we feel the need to wait when it comes to teaching adults?

As we prepare to lead, we can look for natural ways to encourage the group to pray based on the Bible text being studied. Let's go back to Jeremiah 12. Suppose the group plans direct us to lead the group to identify situations that might cause you to wonder if God is just. What if we added a prayer prompt at this point? We could direct the group to express to God silently why the situations listed cause them to question God's justice. We may direct the group to pray something like, "God, I know You are _____ (*just, righteous, all powerful, and so forth*), but _____ makes me wonder and I need your assurance." We could then point out that God answered Jeremiah and lead the group to examine verses 5 and following of Jeremiah 12.

GIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO RESPOND ALOUD

We could certainly invite people to pray silently, but we should not ignore the value of inviting people to voice their prayers aloud within the group. Overusing silent prayer may unknowingly communicate that we believe prayer to be strictly private, even though the early church often prayed as a community. Allowing people to respond to the prompts aloud can encourage others who may be timid or less confident and helps the group hear an actual example of praying Scripture. We will want to remind people to be concise and current when responding aloud. Providing a clear prompt like the one suggested above can help.

Imagine for a moment what might happen in your church if every adult group found a way to encourage the group to pray based on the passage studied in each group. What might that do in the life of your church? What if that happened in other churches? How might that impact the cause of Christ across our cities, states, and regions? As Bible study leaders, we can help our group be more in tune with God's heart and desires as we lead them to pray Scripture using the Bible passages we study.

Dwayne McCrary is manager of Adult Ongoing Bible Studies at Lifeway.

LEADER PACK **IDEAS**

Pack Item 1

Map: From Kadesh-Barnea to Moab
Sessions 1-13

Locate a map that highlights the route taken by the Israelites from Kadesh-Barnea to Moab.

Pack Item 2

Poster: Outlines of Numbers, Deuteronomy
Sessions 1-13

Refer to page 9 of the PSG to create a poster that outlines the books of Numbers and Deuteronomy.

Pack Item 3

Poster: The Journey of the Spies
Session 3

Use a study Bible or a Bible dictionary to locate a map that shows the movements of the Israelite scouts as they spied out Canaan in Numbers.

Pack Item 4

Poster: Key Verse: Numbers 14:18a
Session 4

Create a poster with the text of Numbers 14:18a:

The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in faithful love, forgiving iniquity and rebellion.

Pack Item 5

Poster: Key Verse: Deuteronomy 6:4-5
Session 9

Create a poster with the text of Deuteronomy 6:4-5:

Listen, Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.



Examples from *Explore the Bible Leader Pack*.
The Pack is available for purchase at goExploreTheBible.com.

Pack Item 6

Poster: Ancient Covenant Structure
Sessions 10-12

Using a study Bible, Bible dictionary, or other resource, create a poster that outlines the basic structure of ancient “suzerain” treaties. The categories and definitions could include:

- Title
- Prologue
- Stipulations/Laws
- Depositions/Readings
- Witnesses
- Blessings/Curses
- Oaths/Sanctions



COVENANT CATEGORY	WHAT IT MEANS
Title	Identifies the superior party (suzerain) and the lesser party (vassal)
Prologue	Shows how the superior partner has cared for the subordinate one in the past, thereby inspiring gratitude and obedience within the subordinate partner.
Stipulations/Laws	Lists the laws given by the superior partner, which are to be obeyed by the subordinate partner. The suzerain has cared for the vassal in the past, thereby inspiring gratitude and obedience with the subordinated partner.
Depositions/Readings	Provides for the preservation of the text in the temple of the subordinate partner.
Witnesses	Witnessed and guaranteed by the gods of both parties. In the case of God, He often called heaven and earth as witnesses.
Blessings/Curses	Pronounces blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience
Oath/Ceremony/Sanctions	The covenant is ratified by an oath and a ceremony. The sanctions are announced officially against those who break the covenant relationship.

Pack Item 7

Handout: Numbers, Deuteronomy Time Line
Sessions 1-13

Locate a study Bible with a time line of the major people and events related to the books of Numbers and Deuteronomy. Include both biblical and non-biblical historical references for context.

Pack Item 8

Handout: Praying Scripture in Numbers, Deuteronomy
Sessions 1-13

Create a handout to help adults pray through key Scriptures in the books of Numbers and Deuteronomy. Provide the following prompts:

- Session/Verse
- General thoughts from the passage
- What does this passage teach you about God and His character?
- How is God leading you to respond to what He is showing you about Himself?
- Written prayer based on the passage

Pack Item 9

Handout: Complaints in the Wilderness
Sessions 2-5

Create a chart that lists the times Israel complained during their time in the wilderness in the book of Numbers. Include the passage reference, the specific complaint, who was complaining, and the target of the complaint.

Pack Item 10

Handout: Remembering God's Faithfulness
Session 8

Create a handout that includes a two-column chart. One column provides space for adults to list ways God showed His faithfulness to Israel in the wilderness. The other column provides space for adults to list ways God has shown His faithfulness in their lives.

Pack Item 11

Handout: Balaam: All We Know
Session 6

Use a commentary, Bible handbook, or other source to create a handout that highlights key facts about Balaam the seer.

Pack Item 12

Handout: Why This Land?
Session 7

Use a commentary, Bible handbook, or other source to create a handout that describes what made the promised land so appealing to God's people and others.

Pack Item 13

Handout: Moses's Final Appeal
Session 12

Use a commentary, Bible handbook, or other source to create a handout that outlines Moses's final message to the children of Israel in Deuteronomy 30.

Pack Item 14

Handout: Jesus and Deuteronomy
Session 13

Use a commentary, Bible handbook, or other source to create a chart that shares how Jesus used the book of Deuteronomy during His ministry on earth and encourages adults toward further study of Deuteronomy.

COMPLAINTS IN THE WILDERNESS			
PASSAGE	COMPLAINT	COMPLAINERS	TARGET OF COMPLAINTS
Numbers 11:1-34	Hardship and food	The Israelites	God
Numbers 12:1-12	Challenging Moses' prophetic authority and his marriage to a Cushite woman	Miriam and Aaron	Moses
Numbers 13:26-33	Doubts in their ability to defeat the promised land's inhabitants and take over the land	All the Israelite scouts except for Caleb	Moses, Aaron, God
Numbers 13:30-34:9	Rejection of the promised land	The Israelites	Moses, Aaron, God
Numbers 14:1-10	Demanding a new leader to guide them back to Egypt	The Israelites	Moses and Aaron
Numbers 14:20-12:22,37	Refusal to enter the promised land	The Israelites, except for Caleb and his descendants	God
Numbers 16:1-50	Rejection of priestly authority—believing the entire community of Israelites were holy	Korah, Dathan and Abiram, and On, along with 250 prominent Israelite men	Moses and Aaron
Numbers 20:1-13	Lack of water	The Israelites	Moses
Numbers 21:4-5	The final complaint—the God had led them to die in the wilderness with no bread, water, and "wretched food"	The Israelites	God and Moses

Examples from *Explore the Bible Leader Pack*.
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COMING **NEXT QUARTER**



MATTHEW 1-13

Session 1: **Affirmation** (Matthew 3:13-4:11)

Session 2: **Invitation** (Matthew 4:12-25)

Session 3: **Worship the King** (Matthew 2:1-12)

Session 4: **True Righteousness** (Matthew 5:13-20,43-48)

Session 5: **Treasure** (Matthew 6:19-34)

Session 6: **Authority Acknowledged** (Matthew 7:15-29)

Session 7: **Every Life Valued** (Matthew 8:1-4,14-17; 9:1-8)

Session 8: **Mercy Extended** (Matthew 9:10-19,23-26)

Session 9: **Loyalty Tested** (Matthew 10:16-20,26-34)

Session 10: **Confronting Doubts** (Matthew 11:1-6,16-24)

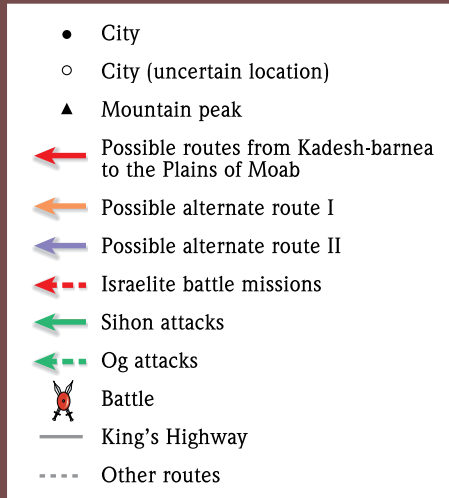
Session 11: **Rejecting Legalism** (Matthew 12:1-14)

Session 12: **Judgment Coming** (Matthew 13:24-30,36-43)

Explore

“You will seek me and find me when you search for me
with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13

The Journey From Kadesh-Barnea to Moab



"The Journey from Kadesh-Barnea to Moab" is taken from the Holman Bible Atlas (Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 1998), p. 71. Used with permission.

NUMBERS AND DEUTERONOMY

As road trips wind down, travelers start thinking about the work waiting for them back home. The ancient Israelites were no exception. The books of Numbers and Deuteronomy recount how the nation of Israel wandered in the wilderness for four decades and how God taught them to be His people as they approached the promised land. He wanted to remind them how much still needed to be done once they got "home." As you study these final two books of the Pentateuch, ask God to show you what He longs to accomplish in you and through you. Learn how to avoid a life of spiritual wandering and embrace the best He has to offer.

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