



Tuesday Devotion: (Leviticus) Numbers 1 Week 19; August 4, 2020

Bible Reference: Leviticus and [Numbers 1](#)

Leviticus is one of those books of the Bible that most people don't read and most pastors don't preach on. Some even wonder why it is included in Scripture at all. It is a book full of laws, some of which are very confusing. But like last week when I preached on what was happening at the time of the first Pentecost, Leviticus helps you see some of what was happening in the lives of people at that time. The priests, or the tribe of Levi, was to make sure the tabernacle was set up correctly, which was key for the children of Israel to be ready for battle. For the purposes of our wilderness study, however, it doesn't seem fitting to go on the journey through Leviticus. Having said that, some of you might still appreciate reading through it. Even in Leviticus there are powerful insights into our God.

For our wilderness study we move onto the book of Numbers. Numbers, as you might imagine, begins with a census so Moses and Aaron can count who is available for battle. This is important because the next part of their wilderness journey is to get to the promise land and battle those already living there.

This is fitting for us as well as we start the second part of our wilderness season. For us, the first part of the wilderness was all about staying home. It was all we could focus on. Now wearing masks is our new reality. We are anticipating school starting again for children, some online and some in person, with new guidelines of course. Watching what it has been like for sports to come back has taught us that taking count of available players who aren't sick is key. This chapter of Numbers, for the children of Israel and for us, is about preparing for battle and taking inventory on who is ready to fight. And, as the last section of Numbers 1 speaks to the tabernacle being ready, our church will be ready to support those fighting.

I've got to admit, last week was not fun at all. I didn't like the feeling of having my hands tied after working so hard to reopen. I wanted the church to be able to take in anyone that wanted to come. Yet, that feeling allowed for some creative moments for me, the board, and the staff as we went back to work making sure we are prepared and don't have to feel like our hands are tied again. It won't come out all at once, but we are working behind the scenes to make sure Mt. Calvary is ready for battle.

My promise to you is that we will do everything to provide support for you to be ready for the battle you are fighting. We want you to feel recharged on Sundays, whether worshipping

with us online or in person. The Holy Spirit has poured 3 series topics in my heart that we will go through over the next few months. My prayer is that when you return from your weekly battle, the tabernacle (our church) will be here to give you Jesus so that you will have the energy to head into your next week of battles. I have no clue what battles you will be facing; it may be illness, financial issues, isolation, relational conflicts, or something else. Our text, the first chapter of Numbers, reminds us to be ready. I am praying for you!

God's Peace,
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