

Bible Reading Together during this Covid-19 Shutdown

December 6-12: Read **Numbers 11, Gospel of Matthew 18 & John 10**

Numbers 11

The chapter opens with the people complaining against their God. Even Moses complains. To them, God satisfied their craving for meat, but the meat was spoiled!

Further Study & Discussion

- This chapter describes a great tension that existed among the people. The people were disgruntled. They got manna, but now they wanted meat. And their threats were so severe that Moses complained against God and wished for death if God would not resolve the tension. God acted and the tension was resolved. What do you think of how God did it?
- Think about a time you complained against God? Was it justified? How did God respond to you then?
- God caused seventy elders to experience the presence of God's Spirit in them. Why did God do that for them? And how did that help Moses?

Gospel of Matthew 18

This chapter is filled with red in my Bible. That means Jesus is teaching. He uses children as examples in v.1-14, and then talks about dealing with sin and forgiveness (v.15-35).

Further Study & Discussion

- The last teaching is the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant. Retell the parable and talk about the point Jesus is making. Then refer to the Lord's Prayer, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."
- "If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off..." (v.8). We call this a hyperbole – an extreme example meant to teach an important point. So what's the point Jesus is making?

Gospel of John 10

It's another chapter of Jesus' teaching and the images of shepherd and sheep run throughout.

Further Study & Discussion

- So, how is Jesus a "good shepherd"? Why does he use that descriptive adjective before shepherd?
- In v.24, Jews ask him, "If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus is flabbergasted, "I have told you, and you do not believe" (v.25). Read the rest of Jesus' reply (ending at v.30). Are you one of his sheep?