



# MARCH REFLECTION GUIDE

DAY 61-91

## **Day 61-69 - Numbers 16-36**

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**Day 62** - In Numbers 20, we see Moses was told by the Lord to speak to the rock and instead he strikes the rock. This causes the Lord to discipline Moses and the consequences are that he will not be able to enter the promised land. Moses didn't get the temporary pleasure of entering the promised land, but his legacy of faith still gained him access to the Eternal Promised Land.

*Whitney Capps says this about Moses striking the rock, "Partial Obedience is still disobedience..." ouch that's hard to hear, but true*

*Tara-Leigh says, "God still gave the people water, but Moses disobedience and unbelief cost him dearly. God shows His goodness by being kind to sinners who rebel against Him. But there are consequences even for slight disobedience. As a result, Aaron and Moses are prohibited from entering Canaan too."*

➤ **How did you feel about Moses not being able to enter the promised land?**

**Day 63-64** - In Numbers 22, we see the Moabite king offer to pay Balaam to curse the Israelites. We see Balaam have an encounter with the One True God and in Numbers 22:38, he realized this, *"But I can't say whatever I please. I must speak only what God puts in my mouth."* We quickly see that his motivations were not pure and that he was only willing to follow Yahweh (Israel's God) if it benefitted him. We see in these passages that God's plan cannot be manipulated.

➤ **Is there a time when your motivation for following God might not have been totally pure?**

➤ **What did you learn about God through studying Balaam?**

In Numbers 28-29, we see Moses remind them of all the offerings and feasts. God continues to remind his people to rest and to present offerings to the Lord.

**On Day 66, Tara-Leigh in The Bible Recap talks about Sabbath Rest and Offering...**

*"He provides all that He requires of us. Even though we no longer offer sacrifices, we still need to be reminded of this and trust that He is providing for us. Two of the things in our lives that can still serve this purpose are giving to the church and Sabbath. And here's an interesting thought: there are 168 hours in each week. If you sleep 7-8 hours a night on average, that means you're awake for 16-17 hours each day. So taking one of those 16-17 hour days and setting it aside for rest, you're giving back 10% of your time. By giving back a portion of our time and our money, we demonstrate our trust in the God who provides for us and sustains us."*

She specifically says this about Sabbath Rest. *“We can hardly get through any chunk of laws without Him saying, “Don’t forget -- rest. Hey, remember, one day a week -- stop working.” And it’s not just a day about doing nothing -- it’s a day about reconnecting with Him.*

- **Do you practice Sabbath Rest on a weekly basis?**
- **If yes, share what you do? If no, share some ways you can begin to incorporate this into your weekly rhythm?**

At the end of Numbers, we begin to see detailed instructions for what is to happen when they enter the promised land.

#### **What do we learn about God’s Character in Numbers:**

- Through the detailed census taking and the instructions to his people, we see that He is a God that is in the Details.
- Through his discipline of the people, we see that He is a God who takes sin seriously and demands justice.
- Through his reminders about Sabbath and Feasts, we see that He is a God who provides times of rest and celebration.
- **What did you learn about God’s character in Numbers?**

### **Day 70-81 - Deuteronomy 1-34, Psalm 91**

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Deuteronomy reads much like Moses’ farewell speech to the Israelites. He is reminding them of their past mistakes, urging them to not repeat those patterns and warning them that they can be exiled from this promised land if they rebel against the Lord. In this book, we also see Moses commissioning a new leader for the people named Joshua.

**This book is often quoted by Jesus and others in the New Testament, let’s just take a look at some of the references to Deuteronomy that come later in scripture:**

**Look up Luke 4:1-13**, Jesus answered all three of his temptations in the wilderness with quotations from the book of Deuteronomy.

- Man shall not live by bread alone. (Deut. 8:3)
- You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve. (Deut. 6:13)
- It is said, You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.” (Deut. 6:16)

Jesus quoted Deuteronomy again, when asked in [Mark 12:28](#) “Which commandment is the most important of all?” He answered with a passage from [Deuteronomy 6:4-5](#): “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength’” ([Mark 12:30](#)).

**In his letter to the Romans, Paul used the scriptures from Deuteronomy to teach these truths:**

- that righteousness is by faith ([Rom. 10:6-8, 19](#) & [Deut. 30:12-14](#))
- that a circumcision of the heart is necessary for true obedience ([Rom. 2:29](#) & [Deut. 30:6](#))
- that keeping the law is the way to love one’s neighbor ([Rom. 13:9](#) & [Deut. 5:17-19, 21](#))

- that we should not seek personal revenge ([Rom. 12:19](#) & [Deut. 32:35](#))
  - and that we should expect Gentiles to be added to an originally all-Jewish people of God ([Rom. 15:10](#) & [Deut. 32:43](#))
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In Deuteronomy, Moses is reminding the people to trust in the Lord and not give into fear and their own desires. We see in this book that God is after the hearts of the people, not just their obedience and if they love him with their hearts, their desires will begin to change.

### Read Deuteronomy 30:6

- *30:6 "The LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live."*

On Day 80, Tara-Leigh says:

*"That's what happens when God gives someone a new heart -- their desires change! Remember that the word "heart" here is a mingling of the words we use for "heart" and "mind" -- it's where desire and will overlap, and it's what drives our actions. Without a new heart, it's impossible to walk in ways that are pleasing to God. The only way for their choices and decisions to reflect the things of God's heart are if He changes their hearts. And since what He's after IS our hearts -- then even if our actions appear to be good on the surface, none of it matters if the heart isn't engaged. Only when He changes our hearts will our actions be ones that will respond to Him rightly.*

*Then Moses calls Joshua up in front of all the people and says lots of the same things to him -- he reminds Joshua not to fear, just like he reminded the Israelites not to fear. And in both instances, the antidote to fear was not to think about how awesome they are or to believe in their dreams but to remember the nearness of God."*

- **What did you learn about God's Character in Deuteronomy?**
- **In this section, we also read Psalm 91, what stood out to you about this Psalm? Did you realize that it was written by Moses?**

## **Day 82-91 - Joshua 1-24**

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Joshua is appointed as the new leader of the Israelites and is considered the "new Moses".

**The book of Joshua is divided into 4 sections:**

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### **1. Joshua leads the people into Israel - Chapters 1-5**

Look at the phrases of certainty offered by both God and His newly appointed servant, Joshua, the first few verses of Joshua 1:

- *"I am giving [this land to the Israelites]" (v. 2)*
- *"I have given you [every place your foot touches]" (v. 3)*
- *"Your territory will be [where I've appointed it]" (v. 4)*

- “I will be with you” & “I will not leave you or forsake you” (v. 5)
- “You will distribute the land I swore to their fathers” (v. 6)
- “You will have success” [as you heed all of My instruction] (v. 7)
- “You will prosper and succeed” [when you observe My Word] (v. 8)
- “God is with you wherever you go” (v. 9)
- “You will be crossing the Jordan” & “God is giving” [this land to you] (v. 11)
- “God will give you rest” & “God will give you this land” (v. 13)

This shows so clearly that God is a Promise Keeper! He is faithful to fulfill His promises to His people.

➤ **What stands out to you about these verses?**

In Joshua 2, we see the story of Rahab. Rahab, a woman known primarily by her sin, had heard the stories of God’s stunning faithfulness to His people, and she knew these people were coming to possess her homeland. Her neighbors were frightened by the evidence of His greatness; in Rahab’s own words, they were panicked. But a different kind of fear was taking root in Rahab, she was beginning to fear the Lord.

**Tara-Leigh points this out about Rahab on Day 82,**

*“what we see about Rahab is that even though she’s a Canaanite prostitute, she seems to fear YHWH. She says the fear of the Israelites has fallen on her people, which is the fulfillment of something God promised in Exodus 15 (:16) and 23 (:27). She seems to have a real faith in the God of Israel and knows what He is capable of. But Rahab has heard about how God led them across the Red Sea on dry land -- which is a story they seem to often seem to forget themselves, by the way. Rahab is praised twice in the New Testament -- in Hebrews (11:31) and James (2:25) -- for the way she lived out her faith. Not only that, but she’s included in the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1 (:5), which is kind of a big deal.”*

- **What do we learn from the story of Rahab?**
- **What does the idea of “fearing the Lord” mean to you?**

**On Day 82, Tara-Leigh also points this out about the moment they crossed into the Promised Land in Joshua 3:**

*“Last time they had to cross a body of water, God stopped the water before they entered. But this time, the water doesn’t stop until they step INTO it. Walking with God requires increasing amounts of obedience and trust. In 3:17, just as they’re crossing over, God calls Israel a “nation” for the first time. This has been promised since way back in Genesis 12:2. Up until this point, they were just called a “people”, but now they’re a “nation”. God has fulfilled that promise to them!”*

➤ **How did you feel when the Israelites crossed over Jordan into the Promised Land?**

**In Joshua 5:12, we get this verse:** *“The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate the produce of Canaan.”*

**Here’s Tara-Leigh’s observation of what that verse tells us:**

*“WHAT? This is incredible. This is God’s precise provision on display. He gave them miracle food 6 days a week for 40 years, and the manna even follows them into the Promised Land, but then it STOPS on the day after they have access to the local food. There are no gaps in God’s provision.”*

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## 2. Battles with Canaanites - Chapters. 6-12

In Joshua 6-8, we see Israel's first battles in the Promised Land.

In the Battle of Jericho, we see God's Faithfulness on display as Israel takes a more passive approach. God delivers the city into their hands because they obeyed His commands. This shows that God is calling Israel to be patient, trust and follow His commands.

In the Battle of Ai, we see Israel's Failure on display as they aggressively go into battle without seeking the Lord first. These stories make a point... To inherit the land, Israel must obey the Lord, even if His commandments don't make sense to them.

### On Day 83, Tara-Leigh says this:

*"Sometimes what God does in our hearts through obedience is beyond our capacity to understand. Sometimes He's teaching us to trust Him for the outcome instead of trying to achieve it on our own. HE is at work, even on the "nothing" days, when obedience feels like we're just walking in circles. You've probably already seen evidence that your obedience to Him is HIM at work in your life, drawing you nearer to Him."*

- **Has the Lord ever asked you to do something that made no sense at the time, but you can look back and see evidence of what He was doing?**

We see much destruction in this section as they battle all those in the land. God calls for complete destruction. It's important for us to remember that this was a specific unique moment in Israel's history. These commandments from the Lord weren't for all time, just for this specific time.

- **Why do you think God was so specific about how the Israelites were to conquer the people inside the Promised Land? (hint: God's people were to be "set apart")**

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## 3. Joshua divides the land - Chapters 13-22

All these details about the division of land in this section can get a little tedious and hard to read, but this perspective from Tara-Leigh is helpful:

*"Rest assured that these boundaries were very important to the people at that time, and not only that, but these lists have also served our faith historically and archaeologically. So hang in there when we're in these dry patches -- know that they serve a purpose greater than you."*

Pay special attention to the phrasing used throughout chapters 13 and 14 for each portion of land. This land is their inheritance. It is a gift from the Lord, not based on merit but on identity.

- **Did anything stand out to you in reading about the division of the land in these chapters?**

**On Day 87, we read Joshua 21:45** - *"Not one word of all the good promises that the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass."*

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#### **4. Joshua's Final Words - Chapters 22-24**

These passages are very reminiscent of Moses' final speeches in Deuteronomy. He is calling them to remember how faithful God has been to them and to remember to be faithful to the Lord. This is important for them to remember because if they disobey they can be exiled from this land.

**Joshua shows us some important things about the character of God:**

**He is a God that fulfills His promises, a God that will meet all our needs, a God that will provide for us, a God that will never leave us or forsake us and a God that has a purpose for us.**

In Genesis 15, God made a covenant promise to Abraham, spelling out exactly what would happen to his descendants.

- **God promised that Abraham would have numerous offspring.**
- **God promised Abraham that his descendants would be enslaved for 400 years.**
- **God promised that His people would leave the nation they served with overwhelming possessions.**
- **Finally, God promised to bring Abraham's descendants back to the promised land.**

In Joshua, we see God drive out the inhabitants of Canaan and give the land to Israel (Joshua 21:43-44).

Remembering God's faithfulness in our past helps us cling to His promises in our present. God's promises are our foundation. He fulfills His every word. We can cling to His promises as we wander in the desert and fight the enemy. We can count on Him to be fully faithful (Joshua 21:45).

➤ **What did you learn about God through the book of Joshua?**

## **Day 89-91 - Judges 1-7**

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In Judges, we see a pattern emerge among God's people. They sin, they fall into oppression, they cry out to the Lord, He delivers them, they enjoy peace for a while and then they sin again. This is a pattern we are probably familiar with ourselves.

**Tara-Leigh brings up a question for us to consider as we read through the book of Judges.**

*"Does Israel fall away because they have no strong leadership or because they're among the Canaanites?"*

Several times in these first few books of Judges, we see that the Israelites "could not" drive out the Canaanites. In Judges 3:1, we see that God left some of those people to test the Israelites.

➤ **What do you think the Lord wanted the Israelites to learn?**

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**On Day 90, we learn about the first 4 judges: Othniel, Ehud, Shamgar and Deborah.**

**Tara-Leigh says this about these unlikely leaders:**

*"In our first four judges, we start with a man from the tribe of Judah, which is to be expected, but then we have a left-handed man from a right-handed tribe, a Canaanite to lead the Israelites, and a woman. NONE of those would be viewed as traditional leaders in that day, and it just reminds me of how God uses the unlikely, not to pump up their self-esteem or give them bragging rights in front of the haters -- that's prideful at worst, and fleeting at best -- but He does it to reveal HIMSELF at work, to reveal HIS HEART for those who are overlooked. It's not that He "sees potential" in them -- He doesn't see it and it's not potential. It's a REALITY, and He created it. God is establishing a track record of using people we probably wouldn't think of as leaders, those we might pass over because they seem less qualified for one reason or another. It brings Him glory and it brings us joy"*

➤ **What stood out to you about these first judges?**

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On Day 91, we read about the next judge, Gideon. Gideon was a reluctant leader who was fearful. He continually asked God to give him signs and the Lord was patient with him.

**I love this God Shot from Day 91's podcast:**

*"I found it so compelling that Gideon doubts God A LOT and God never gets angry with him for it. God meets him in his questions. He's never impatient with Gideon's doubts and fears. He comes alongside him to embolden him, and He knows that what Gideon needs to hear most of all is WHO GOD IS."*

➤ **In what ways could you relate to Gideon?**

➤ **What do we learn about God by studying Gideon?**

## **Names & Attributes of God we've seen in these passages of Scripture**

EL SHADDAI (God Almighty, Lord of the Mountains, All-Sufficient One) – Gen 17:1, Ps 91:1

JEHOVAH SHALOM (Peace) – Judges 6:24, Num 6:22-27, Is. 26:3, Ps 119:165, Phil 4:4-7, Jn 14:27

ZUR (The Rock) – Deut 32:4, Psalm 18:1-2, Psalm 18:31, I Cor. 10:1-4

IMMANUEL (God Is With Us) – Matthew 1:23, Deut 31:6, Hebrews 13:5

FULFILLER / FULFILLMENT - Psalm 138:8, Luke 1:45, Joshua 21:45, Lam 2:17, Ezek 12:28, Phil 1:6

LORD OF HOSTS (Commander of Heavenly Armies) - Isaiah 47:4, Psalm 46:7, Psalm 91:11

## **Additional Resources available at [www.graceclarksville.com/womenintheword](http://www.graceclarksville.com/womenintheword)**

### **Books:**

- *30 Days to Understanding Your Bible* by Max Anders

### **Videos:**

- [Numbers Overview Video](#)
- [Deuteronomy Overview Video](#)
- [Joshua Overview Video](#)
- [Judges Overview Video](#)

### **Websites for further studies:**

- <https://bibleproject.com/> - Great overview videos by theme, book of the Bible and topic
- <https://www.blueletterbible.org/> - Choose a version of the Bible and click TOOLS next to the verse