The Lord spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tent of meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

Numbers 1:1

### Original Hebrew Title of Numbers "In the Wilderness" (Hb. Bemidbar)

## Numbers is a book for people following God in the wilderness.

### Listen to: Numbers 1-36

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food."

Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died.

Numbers 21:4-6

#### Outline of Numbers

- · The 1st Census: Chapters 1-25
- · The 2nd Census: Chapters 26-36

These were those listed by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who listed the people of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.

<sup>64</sup>But among these there was not one of those listed by Moses and Aaron the priest, who had listed the people of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.

<sup>65</sup>For the Lord had said of them, "They shall die in the wilderness." Not one of them was left, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.

Numbers 26:63-65

# Learn from: Numbers 1-36 • Disobedience brings death

Aaron, saying, <sup>27</sup>"How long shall this wicked congregation grumble against me? I have heard the grumblings of the people of Israel, which they grumble against me.

<sup>28</sup>Say to them, 'As I live, declares the Lord, what you have said in my hearing I will do to you: 29 your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness, and of all your number, listed in the census from twenty years old and upward, who have grumbled against me,

30 not one shall come into the land where I swore that I would make you dwell, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun. 31 But your little ones, who you said would become a prey, I will bring in, and they shall know the land that you have rejected.

<sup>32</sup>But as for you, your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness. <sup>33</sup>And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness.

<sup>34</sup>According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, a year for each day, you shall bear your iniquity forty years, and you shall know my displeasure.'

<sup>35</sup>I, the Lord, have spoken. Surely this will I do to all this wicked congregation who are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall come to a full end, and there they shall die."

Numbers 14:26-35

#### Learn from: Numbers 1-36

- · Disobedience brings death
- · God is not deterred by our disobedience
  - o In which census will you be counted?

### Live by: Numbers 1-36

- Detecting Disobedience
  - o Craving-Num. 11:4
  - o Bringing/Grumbling—Num. 14:36-37
  - o Quarreling-Num. 20:13

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

John 3:14-15

### Live by: Numbers 1-36

- Detecting Disobedience
  - o Craving-Num. 11:4
  - o Bringing/Grumbling-Num. 14:36-37
  - o Quarreling-Num. 20:13
- · Look to Jesus-Num. 21:9/Jn. 3:14-15

## Let others know about: Numbers 1-36 • Jesus is at the center of Numbers