

Numbers for grumblers



Materials for group meetings

4th Meeting **THEME: Deep crisis!**

Prepare in prayer. If you have time, read Ch. 13-19. If you have less time: read Ch 16-17. If you look at the book overview, then you will see that Chapter 16 is at the centre of the book of Numbers.

Icebreaker 'The challenge no longer to acknowledge, respect, obey the one who is in charge to lead' – how/wherein have you (recently) experienced this challenge? [Take a few moments of silence before you respond to this question] Share briefly, without discussion.

Pray Ask God for His Holy Spirit to speak to you through His Word today.

Bible passage **Read Numbers 16:1-15**

Look again at Numbers 16:1-3 and 16:12-14

- Try to put yourself in these leaders, Moses and Aaron. How would you feel after what has been said? Why?

Look again at Numbers 16:4-11 and verse 15

- How does Moses respond to the accusations? (Try to summarise this in your own words)
- Wherein could you learn from the way Moses responds?

Now read Numbers 16:20-27

These verses contain a message that is still relevant for the New Testament church. For instance, in the church of the Corinthians there were those who taught that Christians at Corinth could distance themselves from the apostle Paul and his teaching. Then Paul quotes this passage (II Cor. 6:11-7:1).

- What – in your own words – is the message of Numbers 16:20-27?
- Why/how is it still relevant for us?
- Look at verse 27. Korah's wife and children are not mentioned here. Read Numbers 26:11. What can we learn from this?
- Korah, Dathan and Abiram were obviously not right in their criticism. But what if leaders obviously fail? Abuse their power, are corrupt, etc.? What is a biblical way for a Christian to respond then?

Digging deeper: Deep crisis!

What in those things you read, heard and learnt in this meeting, is of importance for you now, in a certain situation? Take a few moments of silence to think/pray about this. Then share.

End with prayer.