

# Numbers for grumblers



## Materials for group meetings

### 10th Meeting

### THEME: MAIN RESPONSIBILITY

**Prepare** in prayer. Read Chapter 30.

**Icebreaker** Someone says: Christianity seems to me to be a patriarchal religion. How do you respond?

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

**Bible passage** Read Numbers 30

Some explanation to understand what this chapter is all about and why it is here in Numbers:

Soon Gods people would live in Gods land. Nations and all creation, looking at God's visible people should get by looking at them a picture of their invisible, faithful, covenant God. For that reason, it is important that they keep all God's commandments. For that reason, it is important that they are faithful to their promises as God is faithful to his promises. And for that reason, some people are called in some cases to take main responsibility for promises not made by themselves. As covenant heads they must be responsible for the promises of others. We learn in this passage that this applies to fathers to their daughters, while still young (but older than 13) and living in the house; to fiancé for fiancée; and to husbands for wives. By this they have to give a picture of how their future covenant head (as promised to Eve) would take main responsibility for his people.

Take some time to look again at this whole chapter.

- Which things would you like to ask – because you don't understand them, it is not clear?
- Which things in this passage strike you – (you learn from it and like it)?
- Which things are hard for you, not so much to understand, but to accept, in this passage?

Read Genesis 3:6 and Genesis 3:9-12

- What strikes you, in light of Numbers 30?
- How does Numbers 30 help us to understand the Gospel and the work of Jesus Christ better?

### Digging deeper

Read Ephesians 5:25 twice. It may seem strange to do this, for instance if you hear this verse whereas you are single or female or... But listen carefully to this verse, there is a message and a beauty in it for everyone. Listen. Take silence for a few minutes, while thinking and praying on this question: what did God want to teach and show me today?

Share briefly.

**End** with prayer.