



## A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families: For the week of May 27, 2018

Note to Discussion Leaders: Have members read the Bible passage in the group meeting. This is a “worship discussion” guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. Read through this guide before meeting with the group. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for the time of meeting together, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Numbers 27:1-11 “Inheritance”

- Will you have an inheritance? Why or why not? What is one thing you might inherit on your lifetime?
- What things rob you of confidence?

<sup>1</sup> Then drew near the daughters of Zelophehad the son of Hopher, son of Gilead, son of Machir, son of Manasseh, from the clans of Manasseh the son of Joseph. The names of his daughters were: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. <sup>2</sup> And they stood before Moses and before Eleazar the priest and before the chiefs and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, saying, <sup>3</sup> “Our father died in the wilderness. He was not among the company of those who gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah, but died for his own sin. And he had no sons. <sup>4</sup> Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us a possession among our father’s brothers.”

- Zelophehad the son of Hopher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, the son of Joseph had five daughters and no sons. These daughters had a problem. What was it? (1-4)
- How did these women handle their problem? (2)
- What was the source of confidence for these women?
- Can you share a time when you knew that your only source of confidence was God’s promise?

<sup>5</sup> Moses brought their case before the LORD. <sup>6</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, <sup>7</sup> “The daughters of Zelophehad are right. You shall give them possession of an inheritance among their father’s brothers and transfer the inheritance of their father to them. <sup>8</sup> And you shall speak to the people of Israel, saying, ‘If a man dies and has no son, then you shall transfer his inheritance to his daughter. <sup>9</sup> And if he has no daughter, then you shall give his inheritance to his brothers. <sup>10</sup> And if he has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to his father’s brothers. <sup>11</sup> And if his father has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to the nearest kinsman of his clan, and he shall possess it. And it shall be for the people of Israel a statute and rule, as the LORD commanded Moses.”

- The problem of the daughters of Zelophehad was not covered in the Law that had been given to Moses. How did Moses handle their request? (5)
- How would you handle a question or need in light of Scripture? ([Luke 11:9-10](#); [II Timothy 3:16-17](#); [II Peter 1:3-4](#))
- How would you handle an issue that might not be specifically addressed in the Word of God? ([Proverbs 11:14](#); [12:15](#); [20:18](#))
- How did the Lord respond to the five daughters of Zelophehad? Why? (6-7)
- What new statute was established? (8-11)
- Each week in worship, we read a New Testament reading as a complement to the Old Testament sermon text. This week, we read [Matthew 26:6-13](#). Read that account together to begin a time of prayer as a group. Pray that we would be a church that has confidence in following Jesus because He died and rose again for us.

## Sermon Notes

This week, Steve Shelby preached on [Numbers 27:1-11](#).

- Last week we finished the second census in preparation for moving into and taking on the Promised Land. We would expect the next segment of the book to be about that movement.
- Instead, we have a 'break in the action' to deal with a request for a judgement regarding inheritance.
- In ancient Israel, sons had the right of inheritance. The oldest son received a double portion while the rest of the sons divided the rest. If a man had no sons, his estate went to his brothers, then uncle, then to any other male relative. This all had to do with maintaining family ownership of the land and the maintenance of the family name. The land was inherited from the LORD and therefore, it was not just an investment or commodity. The land stood as a memorial to what God had given.
- Daughters received a dowry at the point of marriage.
- This left single women (after their father died) with no inheritance.
- And so now comes these 5 sisters to "stand" before Moses, Eleazar and the LORD.
  - Remarkable confidence in God.
  - They had to believe that they would get a just hearing. [Psalm 17:1-2](#) says, "Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry. Give ear to my prayer from lips free from deceit. From your presence let my vindication come. Let your eyes behold the right."
  - Remarkable confidence that there would be land to inherit. They are still on the Plains of Moab.
  - Remarkable confidence in the justice of God. Our Father. There is no defensiveness here. A remarkable honesty. A remarkable confidence in the mercy of God.
- What about us?

Questions about this week's study guide? Contact Kevin Greene, [kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org)  
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