



A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families: For the week of July 8, 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 32:1-49 “Stage by Stage”

This week, Steve Shelby preached on [Numbers 33:1-49](#).

- The travelogue of chapter 33 divides a few ways:
 - First there are place names that remind of us God’s faithfulness. The first 4 verses matter the most in this chapter (vv. 1-4 and 9)
 - Second there are places that remind us of our faithlessness (i.e. verse 8)
 - Third there are places where nothing happened.
- The chapter is also arranged in a numerical fashion:
 - There are 42 stages (6 sets of 7)
 - They are always setting out
- The Lord numbers our days
- “Now that I look back, it seems to me that in all that deep darkness a miracle was preparing. So I am right to remember it as a blessed time, and myself as waiting in confidence, even if I had no idea what I was waiting for.” (*Marilynne Robinson, Gilead*)

Going Deeper in God’s Worship

Reflect on the text together. [Hear the sermon here.](#)

- 1.) What is true about God’s character, promises or work?
- 2.) What does the Scripture teach you about yourself or others?
- 3.) Are you encouraged to follow Jesus in His mission? How?

Reflect on the whole of Sunday’s liturgy together. Locate this week’s [Order of Worship here.](#)

- 1.) Was there an element of the worship service that you would like to share with the group?
 - A Scripture verse that was read?
 - A prayer that was prayed?
 - A song that was sung?
 - A sacrament that was administered?
 - A way that glory was given to God?
 - A way that someone encouraged you?
- 2.) Did the Holy Spirit convict, change, or encourage you in any way you wish to share with the group?
- 3.) Is Jesus leading you or the group to take a specific risk to minister the Good News to Richmond? Your neighbors? Your co-workers? Your family and friends?

Going Further in Christ's Mission

- 1.) Have the Scripture text open in front of you as a guide to your prayers.
 - Spend time thanking God and giving Him glory.

- 2.) Ask the Lord for vision, strength and faith as followers of Jesus Christ.
 - Count on the work of the Holy Spirit for change.
 - Ask for God's forgiveness and grace to repent of sin and trust Jesus.
 - Pray for the world, our country, Richmond, and the Church.
 - Pray for members of your group, family members, or co-workers, neighbors and friends.

*Questions about this week's study guide? Contact Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org
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