

God has done great things through His Westwood Church family over the past 60 years and we are grateful! The past decade has been a significant time of transition but God has always been faithful and leading us through it. As we remember what God has done in the past, we see Him calling us forward once more to follow Him into a chapter that is unknown yet holds much promise. We are excited about what God might yet do through His church as we surrender to His leadership in both our personal and collective lives! May He do more than we can ask or imagine!

WHAT LIES AHEAD

Numbers Overview:

Numbers is a continuation of God's story in building a nation who would represent him on the earth. Numbers is an historical record of God's continued rescue of his people and includes themes like:

- God at work in Israel
- Covenant Community
- Land and rest
- Promises of God
- Commands of God for being a covenant people
- Deliverance

Author and Date:

Unkown, but evidence suggest Moses wrote a significant portion (Numbers 33:2)
1440-1400 B.C.

First readers and their location:

Unkown, but evidence points to the Israelites before they crossed the Jordan and entered the land promised to them by God.

Open-up

Reflect back on the past year and consider what has happened in your life, both the good and the challenging parts. What where some of your key experiences?

Before Reading the passage watch the following video from The Bible Project:
<https://thebibleproject.com/videos/numbers/>

 **Into the Bible—Ask “What does it Say?”**

Read: Numbers 9:1-23

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points, what did this passage say to the original author and audience)

Numbers 9:1-14 is a reminder of how God brought about the rescue of his people from the Israelites in Exodus 11:1-12:30 (Review this story).

What was God’s command to the Israelites? How does it say they responded?

What was the requirement for foreigners living with the Israelites?

What does John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7; and 1 Peter 1:19 reveal about Jesus in relation to the Passover?

What does Numbers 9:15-23 reveal about how God lead the Israelites?

What does John 8:12 and John 1:4-10 reveal about Christ in relation to this passage in Numbers?

 **Into my life—Ask “What does this look like in my personal life?”**

From where has God brought you? Do you have a sense as to where God is leading you?

How about Westwood Church? From where has God brought us? And how do you sense He is leading us forward?

Is there a challenge in your life where God is “moving” you from one place to another?

Who or what are you currently seeking for insight into your specific issue? What does God say to your situation?

 **Into the World—Ask “what does this look like in my world?”**

How will you move with God allowing Him to lead and setting your agenda aside?