

week eight

NUMBERS 26-27;36

AN INHERITANCE BY FAITH



THE SECOND CENSUS

¹ After the plague, the LORD said to Moses and Eleazar son of Aaron the priest, ²“Take a census of the entire Israelite community by their ancestral families of those twenty years old or more who can serve in Israel’s army.”

³ So Moses and the priest Eleazar said to them in the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho, ⁴“Take a census of those twenty years old or more, as the LORD had commanded Moses and the Israelites who came out of the land of Egypt.”

- ⁵ Reuben was the firstborn of Israel.
Reuben’s descendants:
the Hanochite clan from Hanoch;
the Palluite clan from Pallu;
- ⁶ the Hezronite clan from Hezron;
the Carmite clan from Carmi.
- ⁷ These were the Reubenite clans,
and their registered men numbered 43,730.
- ⁸ The son of Pallu was Eliab.
- ⁹ The sons of Eliab were Nemuel, Dathan, and Abiram.
(It was Dathan and Abiram, chosen by the community,
who fought against Moses and Aaron; they and Korah’s
followers fought against the Lord. ¹⁰ The earth opened
its mouth and swallowed them with Korah, when his
followers died and the fire consumed 250 men. They
serve as a warning sign. ¹¹ The sons of Korah, however,
did not die.)
- ¹² Simeon’s descendants by their clans:
the Nemuelite clan from Nemuel;
the Jaminite clan from Jamin;
the Jachinite clan from Jachin;
- ¹³ the Zerahite clan from Zerah;
the Shaulite clan from Shaul.
- ¹⁴ These were the Simeonite clans, numbering 22,200 men.

- ¹⁵ Gad’s descendants by their clans:
the Zephonite clan from Zephon;
the Haggite clan from Haggi;
the Shunite clan from Shuni;
- ¹⁶ the Oznite clan from Ozni;
the Erite clan from Eri;
- ¹⁷ the Arodite clan from Arod;
the Arelite clan from Areli.
- ¹⁸ These were the Gadite clans numbered by their registered men: 40,500.
- ¹⁹ Judah’s sons included Er and Onan, but they died in the land of Canaan.
²⁰ Judah’s descendants by their clans:
the Shelanite clan from Shelah;
the Perezite clan from Perez;
the Zerahite clan from Zerah.
- ²¹ The descendants of Perez:
the Hezronite clan from Hezron;
the Hamulite clan from Hamul.
- ²² These were Judah’s clans numbered by their registered men: 76,500.
- ²³ Issachar’s descendants by their clans:
the Tolaite clan from Tola;
the Punite clan from Puvah;
- ²⁴ the Jashubite clan from Jashub;
the Shimronite clan from Shimron.
- ²⁵ These were Issachar’s clans numbered by their registered men: 64,300.
- ²⁶ Zebulun’s descendants by their clans:
the Seredite clan from Sered;
the Elonite clan from Elon;
the Jahleelite clan from Jahleel.
- ²⁷ These were the Zebulunite clans numbered by their registered men: 60,500.

28 Joseph's descendants by their clans from Manasseh and Ephraim:

29 Manasseh's descendants:
the Machirite clan from Machir.
Machir fathered Gilead;
the Gileadite clan from Gilead.

30 These were Gilead's descendants:
the Iezerite clan from Iezer;
the Helekite clan from Helek;

31 the Asrielite clan from Asriel;
the Shechemite clan from Shechem;

32 the Shemidaite clan from Shemida;
the Hepherite clan from Hepher;

33 Zelophehad son of Hepher had no sons—
only daughters. The names of Zelophehad's daughters
were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.

34 These were Manasseh's clans, numbered by their
registered men: 52,700.

35 These were Ephraim's descendants by their clans:
the Shuthelahite clan from Shuthelah;
the Becherite clan from Becher;
the Tahanite clan from Tahan.

36 These were Shuthelah's descendants:
the Eranite clan from Eran.

37 These were the Ephraimite clans numbered by their
registered men: 32,500.
These were Joseph's descendants by their clans.

38 Benjamin's descendants by their clans:
the Belaite clan from Bela;
the Ashbelite clan from Ashbel;
the Ahiramite clan from Ahiram;

39 the Shuphamite clan from Shupham;
the Huphamite clan from Hupham.

40 Bela's descendants from Ard and Naaman:
the Ardite clan from Ard;
the Naamite clan from Naaman.

41 These were the Benjaminite clans numbered by their
registered men: 45,600.

42 These were Dan's descendants by their clans:
the Shuhamite clan from Shuham.
These were the clans of Dan by their clans.

43 All the Shuhamite clans numbered by their registered men: 64,400.

44 Asher's descendants by their clans:
the Imnite clan from Imnah;
the Ishvite clan from Ishvi;
the Beriite clan from Beriah.

45 From Beriah's descendants:
the Heberite clan from Heber;
the Malchielite clan from Malchiel.

46 And the name of Asher's daughter was Serah.

47 These were the Asherite clans numbered by their registered men: 53,400.

48 Naphtali's descendants by their clans:
the Jahzeelite clan from Jahzeel;
the Gunitite clan from Guni;

49 the Jezerite clan from Jezer;
the Shillemite clan from Shillem.

50 These were the Naphtali clans numbered by their registered men: 45,400.

51 These registered Israelite men numbered 601,730.

⁵²The LORD spoke to Moses, ⁵³“The land is to be divided among them as an inheritance based on the number of names. ⁵⁴Increase the inheritance for a large tribe and decrease it for a small one. Each is to be given its inheritance according to those who were registered in it. ⁵⁵The land is to be divided by lot; they will receive an inheritance according to the names of their ancestral tribes. ⁵⁶Each inheritance will be divided by lot among the larger and smaller tribes.”

⁵⁷ These were the Levites registered by their clans:
the Gershonite clan from Gershon;
the Kohathite clan from Kohath;
the Merarite clan from Merari.

⁵⁸ These were the Levite family groups:
the Libnite clan,
the Hebronite clan,
the Mahlite clan,
the Mushite clan,
and the Korahite clan.

Kohath was the ancestor of Amram. ⁵⁹The name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, a descendant of Levi, born to Levi in Egypt. She bore to Amram: Aaron, Moses, and their sister Miriam. ⁶⁰Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar were born to Aaron, ⁶¹but Nadab and Abihu died when they presented unauthorized fire before the LORD. ⁶²Those registered were 23,000, every male one month old or more; they were not registered among the other Israelites, because no inheritance was given to them among the Israelites.

⁶³These were the ones registered by Moses and the priest Eleazar when they registered the Israelites on the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho. ⁶⁴But among them there was not one of those who had been registered by Moses and the priest Aaron when they registered the Israelites in the Wilderness of Sinai. ⁶⁵For the LORD had said to them that they would all die in the wilderness. None of them was left except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.

27 A CASE OF DAUGHTERS' INHERITANCE

The daughters of Zelophehad approached; Zelophehad was the son of Hephher, son of Gilead, son of Machir, son of Manasseh from the clans of Manasseh, the son of Joseph. These were the names of his daughters: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. ²They stood before Moses, the priest Eleazar, the leaders, and the entire community at the entrance to the tent of meeting and said, ³"Our father died in the wilderness, but he was not among Korah's followers, who gathered together against the LORD. Instead, he died because of his own sin, and he had no sons. ⁴Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan? Since he had no son, give us property among our father's brothers."

⁵Moses brought their case before the LORD, ⁶and the LORD answered him, ⁷"What Zelophehad's daughters say is correct. You are to give them hereditary property among their father's brothers and transfer their father's inheritance to them. ⁸Tell the Israelites: When a man dies without having a son, transfer his inheritance to his daughter. ⁹If he has no daughter, give his inheritance to his brothers. ¹⁰If he has no brothers, give his inheritance to his father's brothers. ¹¹If his father has no brothers, give his inheritance to the nearest relative of his clan, and he will take possession of it. This is to be a statutory ordinance for the Israelites as the LORD commanded Moses."

JOSHUA COMMISSIONED TO SUCCEED MOSES

¹²Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go up this mountain of the Abarim range and see the land that I have given the Israelites. ¹³After you have seen it, you will also be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother was. ¹⁴When the community quarreled in the Wilderness of Zin, both of you rebelled against my command to demonstrate my holiness in their sight at the waters." Those were the Waters of Meribah-kadesh in the Wilderness of Zin.

¹⁵So Moses appealed to the LORD, ¹⁶"May the LORD, the God who gives breath to all, appoint a man over the community ¹⁷who will go out before them and come back in before them, and who will bring them out and bring them in, so that the LORD's community won't be like sheep without a shepherd."

¹⁸The LORD replied to Moses, "Take Joshua son of Nun, a man who has the Spirit in him, and lay your hands on him. ¹⁹Have him stand before the priest Eleazar and the whole community, and commission him in their sight. ²⁰Confer some of your authority on him so that the entire Israelite community will obey him. ²¹He will stand before the priest Eleazar who will consult the LORD for him with the decision of the Urim. He and all the Israelites with him, even the entire community, will go out and come back in at his command."

²²Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua, had him stand before the priest Eleazar and the entire community, ²³laid his hands on him, and commissioned him, as the LORD had spoken through Moses.

36 THE INHERITANCE OF ZELOPHEHAD'S DAUGHTERS

30 The family heads from the clan of the descendants of Gilead—the son of Machir, son of Manasseh—who were from the clans of the sons of Joseph, approached and addressed Moses and the leaders who were heads of the Israelite families. ²They said, “The LORD commanded my lord to give the land as an inheritance by lot to the Israelites. My lord was further commanded by the LORD to give our brother Zelophehad’s inheritance to his daughters. ³If they marry any of the men from the other Israelite tribes, their inheritance will be taken away from our fathers’ inheritance and added to that of the tribe into which they marry. Therefore, part of our allotted inheritance would be taken away. ⁴When the Jubilee comes for the Israelites, their inheritance will be added to that of the tribe into which they marry, and their inheritance will be taken away from the inheritance of our ancestral tribe.”

⁵ So Moses commanded the Israelites at the word of the LORD, “What the tribe of Joseph’s descendants says is right. ⁶ This is what the LORD has commanded concerning Zelophehad’s daughters: They may marry anyone they like provided they marry within a clan of their ancestral tribe. ⁷ No inheritance belonging to the Israelites is to transfer from tribe to tribe, because each of the Israelites is to retain the inheritance of his ancestral tribe. ⁸ Any daughter who possesses an inheritance from an Israelite tribe must marry someone from the clan of her ancestral tribe, so that each of the Israelites will possess the inheritance of his fathers. ⁹ No inheritance is to transfer from one tribe to another, because each of the Israelite tribes is to retain its inheritance.”

¹⁰The daughters of Zelophehad did as the LORD commanded Moses. ¹¹Mahlah, Tirzah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad, married cousins on their father's side. ¹²They married men from the clans of the descendants of Manasseh son of Joseph, and their inheritance remained within the tribe of their father's clan.

¹³These are the commands and ordinances the LORD commanded the Israelites through Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho.

Life Group Discussion Guide

RHYTHM REMINDER  Worship

LEAN IN

When you are waiting for something, is it easier for you to wait patiently or speak up and ask? Why? _____

LOOK DOWN

Read Numbers 27:1-11 (pg. 146). What problem do Zelophehad’s daughters raise, how do they approach Moses with it, and why is God’s response—“They are right”—so striking? _____

LOOK OUT

Why is it important for faith communities to welcome questions for the good of others? _____

LOOK IN

What can we learn from Zelophehad’s daughters about approaching God with bold faith—and how might that shape the way you live this week? _____



CHRIST CONNECTION

By Gavin Lamming | Lead Pastor of Mariners San Clemente

As we near the end of Numbers, Israel is on the outer edges of the Promised Land, and God gives Moses His final instructions. First, take a census of the tribes of Israel and assign them their inheritance according to their size and power by casting lots—a game of chance (Numbers 26:2, 52-55). Second, appoint and commission Joshua as their new leader so they are not like sheep without a shepherd (Numbers 27:12-23).

By now, we can see a prominent theme emerge: obedience is important to God. Whether referring to Moses, the Israelites, or someone else, the phrase “[name] did just as the Lord commanded” appears 12 times. And in turn, these people received the fullness of God’s covenantal covering and blessing.

On the surface, it would seem that God’s people received their inheritance by merit and chance. And obedience was the vehicle through which they would receive His mercy and blessing.

But the story doesn’t end here because God had a greater plan; what His people could not accomplish, Jesus would. And by His obedience on the cross, we receive a new inheritance! It is one we do not earn nor deserve; it has been given as a free gift. For through Jesus we have been adopted by God and become heirs to His Kingdom, co-heirs with Christ (Romans 8:16-17).

Israel received their inheritance by merit and lot; we receive ours through mercy and love. Let us receive the free gift of our inheritance and hold fast to the hope we have in our Good Shepherd—Jesus.

YOUR HOLY PRESENCE IN MY WILDERNESS

By Sangita Patel

Dear ABBA Father,

You are my holy, loving, and sovereign God. I stand in absolute awe of who You are to me. You are my awe-inspiring God; perfectly pure, majestic, righteous, and so much more than what my mortal mind can fathom and my words can express. ABBA, I love You and worship You with all my heart, mind, body, spirit, and strength (Mark 12:30, Deuteronomy 6:5).

Thank You for Your tender mercies, undeserved grace, and unfailing love.

Father, thank You for revealing to me who You are in my wilderness experiences. I now know that I am never alone and that Your holy presence is always with me—Your Holy Spirit dwelling within me and guiding me. I trust You completely for Your protection, provision, and presence in all my circumstances, even though I am not sure what comes next. Strengthen my faith and deepen my reliance on You, O Holy One.

Father, let me not fall into the sin of complaining and grumbling, but instead create a heart of gratitude for Your favor, goodness, blessings, and provisions. Let me not erect any idols before You. Teach me to use words wisely and build in me a deep awareness that my words shape my reality and influence the world around me. Grant me godly wisdom, a grateful and soft heart, and a spirit to see You and Your gracious hand at work in my life.

Father, my rebellion kept me in my spiritual wilderness longer than I wanted. Thank You for making a way for the atonement of my sin and rebellion.



Thank You for Jesus, my Lord and Savior, who has rescued me from spiritual darkness into His glorious light. Through Him, I am fully forgiven and clothed in His righteousness, made pure and blameless in Your sight, and reconciled to You for all eternity.

Father, in response to Your holiness, conform me more into the likeness of Jesus. Make me more obedient, kinder, humbler, and surrendered to Your perfect will. Thank you for setting me apart for Your purposes as I consecrate my life to You. Continue to sanctify me all the days of my life so I may serve You and Your image bearers. Let all that I do glorify You.

“And one called to another: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Armies; his glory fills the whole earth.”
(Isaiah 6:3)

In Jesus’ name I pray,
AMEN





Rest of God
Original Artwork by Jenny Hsu

City of Refuge
Original Artwork by Bill West



A NOTE FROM MARINERS: _____

A city of refuge was a place established by God within Israel's territory (Numbers 35; Deuteronomy 19; Joshua 20) for individuals who had caused an unintentional death. These cities provided protection from the "avenger of blood" until a formal hearing could occur. They ensured due process and prevented personal retaliation. As such, they reflect the integration of justice and mercy in Israel's legal system.

The Inheritance of the Faithful
Original Artwork by Marisha Miller

A LEGACY OF WORSHIP

By Michele Wilbert | Photos By Thomas Pompeo

The book of Numbers tells the story of God faithfully leading His people toward the land of promise. It concludes on a note of hopeful expectancy, as the tribes of Israel will forever dwell in the land given to them by God. Numbers 36:7 (ESV) says, “The inheritance of the people of Israel shall not be transferred from one tribe to another, for every one of the people of Israel shall hold on to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.” Throughout the book, we see God’s faithfulness and the gift of inheritance He desires to be stewarded across generations.

Josh Castro, Senior Worship Coach volunteer at Mariners Santa Ana, understands the importance of the stewardship the Lord has entrusted to him. He began using his musical gifts to record and play drums weekly for services at Mariners Huntington Beach before moving over to serve at Mariners Santa Ana. In his current role, he recruits worship and production volunteers and creates intentional environments for others to not only participate with the worship team but also to grow in their relationships with the Lord.

Mariners Santa Ana Pastor Guillermo Gonzalez believes Josh has made a profound impact on the church. “His

passion for God’s Church has led him to take extra steps to help others develop their skills as musicians. Every Monday night, Josh opens the church at Mariners Santa Ana and turns it into a musical workshop where young and inexperienced musicians come to learn from him. He has trained and developed some of our most consistent volunteers—people who, had it not been for Josh’s training, would not have had the skills to play during a Sunday service,” Gonzalez said.

Josh even created a drums course for others to learn and refine their skills. He sees his role as a way to intentionally disciple, love, and encourage those with whom he serves. “I want them to be refreshed and filled with joy,” Josh says. “I pray that God speaks through the melodies and lyrics to those struggling or who are sick; that they would experience a new sense of hope.”

Santa Ana Worship Director Rob Martinez describes Josh as an instrumental part of

the congregation. “He has been a pillar in our ministry, always going above and beyond for the Kingdom of God as well as our church,” Martinez said.

As a young child, Josh watched his father help others grow musically, which shaped his approach to both understanding and teaching music. Josh, who wants those serving in worship to understand the difference between being a musician and a worship leader, says his father led in a way that allowed everyone to have an opportunity to serve through worship. He believes leaving a legacy is about fostering what you’ve been entrusted with to pass along God’s gifts to others for His glory.

“My hope and prayer is that everything I do at Mariners Santa Ana is for God’s glory,” Josh says. “I pray that my example of following Jesus can encourage others and help the next generation worship God through music.”





Blossom
 Original Artwork by Renata Costa



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Antje Campbell | *Grumbling vs. Gratitude:*

HEART CHOICES

Martha Caputo |
Moses' View of the Promised Land
Natanyah Caputo | *Water from the Rock*
Tessa Chaudhry | *Moving of the Ark*
Byul Chung | *A Unanimous Victory for Believers*
Renata Costa | *Blossom*
Tamara Czerwiak | *The Tabernacle*
Sam Davidson | *Trusting God's Promises*
in Uncertainty
Heatherly De Naranjo | *As Long As He Lets Me*
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Gene Hsieh | Photography
Ann Hu | *Christ Is the Rock of the Church*
Jenny Hsu | *Rest of God*
Susie Sprinkel Hudson | *Promised Land,*
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Ruben James | *Moses: Faithful Despite*
the Rebellion
Kimberly Johnson | *Intercession: Atonement*
in the Chaos
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Mary Leong | *Hungry for Meat*
Alexandra Lindenberg | *The Cure for*
Our Rebellion
Juswin Mathew | *Grumbling Against Grace*
Marisha Miller | *The Inheritance of the Faithful*
Stephanie Miyoshi | Photography
Vivian Nguyen | *Living Water*
Lorraine O'Keefe | *A Rather Humorous Yet*
Holy War of Words

Sangita Patel | *Your Holy Presence in*
My Wilderness
Sophia Kim Reeves | *Today*
Rose Sawh | *The Dangers of Dwelling on the Past*
Jan Snyder | *Balaam's Donkey*
Darlene Welling | *Lift Up and Behold the One*
Michele Wilbert | *A Legacy of Worship*
John Yeo | *Seek*

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**Special thanks to everyone who
courageously shared their stories of
how the Lord has moved in their lives
with our church.**



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO
VOLUNTEER WITH MARINERS
CREATIVE ARTS!**

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