

FAITH ALLIANCE CHURCH

FOCUS: A ONE-YEAR JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE

SESSION 2, WEEK 5 - MARCH 14 - MARCH 19

What to Watch For

This week will start off with the strange occurrence of Balaam's donkey talking, that alone is worth checking out! Balaam's experience with God should offer us quite a bit of instruction and encouragement, it's a piece of scripture worth familiarizing yourself with. Surprisingly (or, maybe not surprisingly anymore) Israel is found being unfaithful right after God expresses remarkable faithfulness to the chosen people of Israel. Maybe when we *feel like* God has abandoned us he's actually in the middle of doing some work that displays amazing measures of faithfulness. There is a quick look back at all of the places Israel visited after fleeing Egypt - what an amazing record of God's faithfulness every step of the way. The Israelites wanted to turn back to Egypt time and time again, but here they are, on the doorstep of the land God promised them! Patience is hard, but God's reward and promises are always worth the wait.

THEME OF THE WEEK

FEATURED FORUM - SUNDAY MARCH 20

ONE STEP AT A TIME

Pastor Trent

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERMON:

Trust Him Every Step of The Way
Numbers 22-36; Galatians 1-3;
Psalm 34-38

READING PLAN

- Monday
Numbers 22-24 /
Psalm 34
- Tuesday
Numbers 25-27 /
Psalm 35
- Wednesday
Numbers 28-30 /
Psalm 36
- Thursday
Numbers 31-33 /
Psalm 37:1-22
- Friday
Numbers 34-36 /
Psalm 37:23-40
- Saturday
Galatians /
Psalm 38

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FAITH ALLIANCE CHURCH

Growing Our Love for God Through a Better Understanding of Scripture

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Use these for personal reflection, family devotional time, or in any other group discussion setting.

- 1. Read Numbers 22-24.** Summarize what happened with God, Balaam, and Balak.
 - a. What can be learned from what we read about Balaam? What's learned about God? What's learned about people? What are some points of application?
- 2. Read Numbers 25:1-9.** What do you make of this? How is Israel still turning away from God after everything he has done?! Are there areas of life that it is hard for you to remain faithful to God? Do you trust him and have moments of weakness, or have you not yet decided to completely trust him? How do we explain the reality that we turn against God time and time again? Why does he still love us?
- 3. Read Numbers 27:12-23 & Matthew 9:36.** What connection do you see between the two passages? What can be learned from this? If followers of God are "sheep" who is the Shepherd? Can a person be a shepherd, too (Moses/Joshua)? How about pastors and elders, are they shepherds? Are you primarily following people or Jesus? Do you know the voice of Jesus as well as you know the voice of other leaders?

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