

Friday, 10/24

**Read:** Numbers 15:1-41; Hebrews 4:1-16

**Ask yourself or one another:** What does God’s word tell us about entering His rest? How does Christ’s priesthood secure that rest?

**Review the names of the sons of Israel.** How many of them died?

**Pray:** Praise God for specific ways that He has been with you. Give thanks for what you have seen Him accomplish. Delight in His lovingkindness to us as a community and to you.

Saturday, 10/25

**Read:** Numbers 16:1-50 *in preparation for gathered worship*

**Sing:** *Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire*

**Pray:** “LORD, O LORD, we have sinned like our fathers. We have committed iniquity, we have behaved wickedly. We, like they, quickly forget Your works and proceeded foolishly without awaiting Your counsel. We have craved what we do not need, indeed things disastrous for us, but we have longed after them while neglecting what You have graciously provided for us.

“Lord, we have sinned like our fathers. We have despised Your blessings, even Christ Himself as we have failed to believe You at Your word and not listened to Your voice.

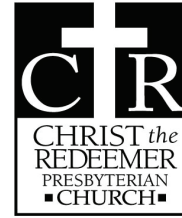
“Save us, O LORD! That we might give You thanks and praise Your holy name. Blessed be the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. And let all the people say, ‘Amen.’ Praise the Lord!” (Ps 106)

### Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

1 Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love, my works are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

2 Though I may give all I possess and striving so my love profess, but not be giv’n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

3 Come Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship and are freed.



# CORPSES IN THE WILDERNESS

Sermon Notes from 10/19/08

**Numbers 13:1-14:45**

Rev. Douglas D. Warren

Book Overview

**Numbers/Into the Wilderness:** God has prepared the Promised Land for Israel as an inheritance where they are to dwell together with Him in their midst enjoying unprecedented intimacy and delight. While the first generation brought up out of Egypt failed to trust Him and so died in the wilderness, they are to press on in faith and obey His Word in every regard so they will live in His blessing.

Section Outline

**Proper Ordering of the Camp.** *“Just as the Lord commanded Moses, so they did.”*

- 1-4 Positioning the Tribes within the camp
- 5-8 Ordering the lives within the camp—expelling the unclean from God’s presence
- 9-10 God-ordered living as a community (Waiting on the Lord)

**The Impossibility of Walking Together with the Holy One of Israel.**

- 11-12 Failure foreshadowed (*key verse* 11:23)
- 13:1-14:45 **Failure secured**
  - 13:1-33 Sending out the Spies—*Grasshoppers in their own eyes, not just poor self-image, poor image of God.*
  - 14:1-4 The whole congregation rebels
  - 14:5-19 Moses, Aaron, and Joshua intercede and the Lord hears
  - 14:20-38 The Sentence pronounced
  - 14:39-45 False repentance

Message

- I. Our Struggle to Get Home
- II. Dying in the Wilderness
- III. Responding to Our Father’s Lovingkindness

Application

*Please ask God to guide you as you answer the following questions:*

- How does the motif of trying to get home resonate with you?
- How do you (we) tend to fear men more than God? Why?
- How does the gospel free you (us) from viewing God with contempt?

## Taking Gathered Worship Home

Will you join me in reading and studying Numbers together? Each week we will have a set of passages to read to help us work together in reading through this whole book and digging into what it means and how we are to apply it in our lives individually, as families, and as a congregation. Let's wade into the Wilderness together.

Sunday, 10/19

**Read:** Numbers 13:1-14:45

**Ask yourself or one another:** What were the main points of the sermon? How do they apply to us as a congregation? How do they apply to me? What am I going to do about it? How does the gospel of Christ empower me (us) to do so? Review Application.

**Sing:** *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!* (words at right)

**Pray:** "Lord God, You are righteous and just in all Your ways. Forgive us for the ways that we so often despise Your justice and think ourselves more compassionate than You. Teach us, Lord, the truth of Your character and the depth of our sin."

**Read:** Numbers 13:1-33; Psalm 95:1-11

**Meditate on the justice of God**

**Ask yourself or one another:** Why do we distrust God? Why does the visible dominate our understanding of reality?

**Sing:** *Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire* (words on Back)

**Pray:** Ask God to reveal the reality of what we cannot see. Praise Him for His faithfulness and confess that He will do what He says.

**Read:** Numbers 14:1-4; 1Corinthians 10:1-13

**Ask yourself or one another:** Why didn't God wipe Israel out?

**Sing:** *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!*

**Pray:** "LORD, O LORD, we have sinned like our fathers. We have committed iniquity, we have behaved wickedly. We, like they, quickly forget Your works and proceeded foolishly without awaiting Your counsel. We have craved what we do not need, indeed things disastrous for us, but we have longed after them while neglecting what You have graciously provided for us.

"Lord, we have sinned like our fathers. We have despised Your blessings, even Christ Himself as we have failed to believe You at Your word and not listened to Your voice.

"Save us, O LORD! That we might give You thanks and praise Your holy name. Blessed be the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. And let all the people say, 'Amen.' Praise the Lord!" (Ps 106)

Tuesday, 10/21

Monday, 10/20

## Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners

1 Jesus! What a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul; friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.

Chorus

Hallelujah! What a Savior! Hallelujah! What a Friend! Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

2 Jesus! What a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him; tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, he, my strength, vict'ry wins.

3 Jesus! What a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll, even when my heart is breaking, he, my comfort, helps my soul.

4 Jesus! What a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high, storms about me, night o'er takes me, he, my pilot, hears my cry.

5 Jesus! I do now receive him, more than all in him I find; he hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine.

Wednesday, 10/22

**Read:** Numbers 14:5-19; Psalm 106:21-23; Hebrews 3:1-6

**Ask yourself or one another:** How does Moses "standing in the breach" point to Christ? How is Christ greater than Moses?

**Sing:** *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!*

**Pray:** "Lord Christ, You are faithful. We praise You for Your perfect obedience and great priesthood on our behalf. Thank you for the fullness of Your promises and for accomplishing them for us. We pray that You will help us to see You as You truly are and worship You together as a community of faith."

**Read:** Numbers 14:20-38; Hebrews 3:7-19

**Ask yourself or one another:** What is the sin of unbelief? Why does the Scripture tie this with the heart? How is this evident in the Israelites sin at Kadesh? What is the warning for those who hear and disbelieve?

**Sing:** *Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire* (words on back)

**Pray:** Ask God to reveal our presumption and hardness of heart. Plead for Him to work in us through His Holy Spirit to soften our hearts and encourage one another in walking in the ways of the Lord, that we might believe Him and so obey.

Thursday, 10/23