



# Crossroads The Story Discussion Guide

## “New Commands and a New Covenant”

Week of: February 3, 2019

*God gives his laws and commandments to free us, protect us, and show us his love...not to take away our fun and ruin our lives.*

this week we look at parts of two rather difficult books to read – Numbers and Deuteronomy, as we explore the Israelites journey through the desert and Moses farewell discourse. If you don't have The Story book, you can read chapters 10-14, 20-21, 25 and 27 in Numbers and chapters 1-2, 4, 6, 8-9, 29-32 and 34 in Deuteronomy.

**OPEN YOUR GROUP WITH A PRAYER. THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE – SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS.**

1. The Israelites' journey through the wilderness is one with both great victories and terrible defeat. How do you see God relating to his people when they lose faith in His promises? Is he consistent? How do you relate to God in the midst of great times or great struggles in your own life? How have you seen God respond to you during these times?
2. Moses called the people of Israel to a life of obedience, promising that life and blessing would flow from it. With such a clear blessing extended to us, we still find it difficult to remain obedient. What role, if any, do you think "remembrance" has in remaining faithful?
3. Israel believed the report of the faithless spies out of fear. What do you think was the cause of their consistent lack of faith and trust?
4. God punishes Miriam and Aaron for slandering Moses (p. 74). Have you ever had to deal with lies spoken against you? How did you handle it? How did Moses handle it, and what does God do in response?

### **Diving Deeper**

1. Despite his years of service, Moses' disobedience kept him from entering the Promised Land. What did Moses do wrong? Do you agree with the punishment? What does this teach you about God's expectations for leadership?
2. What questions came up for you while you were reading this chapter?

### **Read for Next Session**

Take time before your next group meeting to read chapter 6 of The Story.