



## **2016: Week 3**

Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> 2016

*"Rebellious Hearts & Reverent Hearts—  
Where Is Your Heart?"*

### **Numbers 16:5, 7**

<sup>5</sup> (Moses) spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, "Tomorrow morning the LORD will show who is His, and who is holy, and will bring him near to Himself; even the one whom He will choose, He will bring near to Himself... <sup>7</sup> the man whom the LORD chooses shall be the one who is holy." (NASB)

---

On Sunday, John preached from a well-known passage in the Old Testament known as the "Rebellion of Korah" (Numbers 16). In this account, a group of leaders challenged God's leaders (Moses & Aaron), and in doing so, they challenged God's program of choosing. Throughout the text we see contrasting responses from Korah's group to that of Moses and Aaron. Korah's group displayed rebellious attitudes mixed with jealousy and complaints. Moses demonstrated an attitude of reverence towards God, along with humility and a desire to consistently seek God through prayer.

#### **1. Read Numbers 16:20–35; 44–48**

When God declared to Moses and Aaron that He would destroy the congregation of Israel (v. 21), Moses and Aaron "fell on their faces" and prayed. They asked for God to show mercy to the people, and they asked that God would treat the nation differently than the select few who had sinned (v. 22). When one person prays on behalf of another, it is called "intercessory prayer." Moses and Aaron interceded for the congregation of Israel twice in Numbers 16 (once in v. 22 as well as in verses 45–48).

- What motivated Moses & Aaron to intercede for the people?
  
- How might Moses & Aaron's intercession & mediation (see vs. 47–48) resemble the intercession & mediation Christ made for you?
  
- Why should we act as intercessors for others?
  
- Are there people for whom you can pray and intercede? If so, who?

2. Sometimes it can be easy to focus so much on ourselves that we lose focus of God, His purposes, and His plans for our lives. When we don't focus on God, we might look around at others and see gifts, skills, or influence they possess that we don't... and we might become jealous or bitter. Instead of being jealous of others, God wants us to use the gifts He has given us to build one another up (edification). Instead of being bitter at the situation, God wants us to be thankful for the mercy and grace He has shown to us.

- Read **James 3:13–18** and **1 Peter 2:9–10**.
- Does God need to change anything in your heart today?

**FAMILY PRAYER:** Thank God for the blessings He has given you through His Son, Jesus. Pray for the Lord to use you as an intercessor on behalf of another. Finally, pray for the Lord to help you better use the gifts He has given you for serving, equipping, and building into the lives of others.