2016: Week 4
Sunday, January 24th 2016

"Moses at Meribah:
Our Actions Really Do Matter!"

Psalm 106:32–33
32 At Meribah, too, they angered the LORD, causing Moses serious trouble. 33 They made Moses angry, and he spoke foolishly. (NLT)

On Sunday, John preached from **Numbers 20**, a passage in which we find Israel complaining to Moses about their lack of water. This was not the first time the people complained about their need for water. Throughout their wanderings in the wilderness, God always provided for the needs of His people. Many times God had used Moses as an instrument through which He would provide for His people. Here, however, Moses does not fully obey God's instructions, and the end result for him was tragic.

1. Read **Numbers 20:1–13.**
   - Why do you think Moses struck the rock instead of speaking to it as he was instructed?
   - What was God's reasoning for punishing Moses and Aaron? (v. 12)
   - What is a lesson you can learn from how God dealt with Moses?

2. A big point John emphasized on Sunday is that "any believer is capable of committing any sin." Frustration, pride, and lack of faith pushed Moses over the edge to do something that he probably never imagined doing. He doubted God's provision, spoke rashly, sought glory for himself, and ultimately disobeyed God's instructions.
   - When we don't trust in God's promises, we are more susceptible to disobeying His instructions. *Which of God's promises do you doubt today?*
   - How might your frustration with the sins of others lead you to committing sins yourself? How can you prevent this?

3. Moses had demonstrated great faith in God throughout his lifetime. Even as a mature believer, however, Moses messed up & missed out. He sinned and as a result he missed out on the blessing God wanted to give to him. *What blessings might you miss out on if you give into sin and compromise?*

FAMILY PRAYER: Pray for the Lord to watch over your family and to keep pride and self-reliance out of your lives. Pray that you will depend on the Lord, trust His promises, obey His instructions, and look forward to the greater reward.