

## Legaspi - Lesson 4

### **Big Question: How are the Israelites prepared by God to enter the Promised Land?**

#### **Key points**

*In this lesson's video clip, Dr. Legaspi continues to discuss the movement of God's people as they prepare to finally receive one of the promises made to Abraham: a land of their own. Teachers should understand these few key points before the lesson, and students should take these points away from the classroom.*

- A. In the Law given at Mt. Sinai, we see detailed instructions for the building of the Tabernacle, in which God dwells with His People.
- B. In anticipation of the Israelites finally entering the land originally promised to Abraham, the Lord instructs one person from each of the twelve tribes of Israel to act as a spy and explore the land of Canaan, which they will possess. However, when they report back to the people, only two out of the twelve spies – Joshua and Caleb – advise Israel to go in and possess the land in accordance with God's promise. The others all fear the people dwelling in Canaan. Therefore, the Israelites wander in the wilderness forty years, until all the “doubters” die off, before being allowed to possess the land.
- C. In the book of Deuteronomy, Israel is given instructions by God for what to do when they possess the land. They are told to appoint a king whom God chooses for them and how he should rule. They are also told that God will raise up for them a prophet and put words in his mouth to command the people.

#### **Review**

Ask students:

1. What did we learn last class? Review your notes and rewrite a key point or takeaway that you found significant. If you were absent, your job is to review the student guide from last class and then ask your fellow students questions about the points they're about to share.

Give them 3 or so minutes to review and write, then ask them:

- Share what you've written (go around the room systematically to get feedback)
- Then ask students who were absent last class: do you have any questions they have about their points? Students may not be able to answer their questions, and that's okay. You can affirm the question, and if it's easy to answer yourself, do so. And if not, say “We'll hold on to that question to see if it's answered in any of the future classes.”

Finally, review any key points from last class that was missed, especially if it is really important for this upcoming lesson.

#### **Opening Reflection**

Say something like:

- As we have looked at the movement of God’s people beginning with God’s covenant with Abraham, we have continually kept in mind the promise given to Abraham: descendants, blessings, and land.
- In the last lesson, we saw Pharaoh nearly rob Israel of the promise. However, God showed both His faithfulness to His People and His power to keep His promise.
- Today, we will continue to journey with Israel as she prepares to finally receive one of the promises: a land of her own. However, as we will see, this is not by any means the end of the story.
- We’re going to ask the question: “How are the Israelites prepared by God to enter the Promised Land?”

### Preparing for Video Clip

Read together Numbers 13:1-31.

2. Why do the majority of the people think it would be a bad idea to inhabit the land of Canaan? Why does Caleb disagree?

Read together Deuteronomy 17:14-18:22.

3. When Israel inhabits the land, how is God calling her to be different from other nations?
  4. How are the king, the priests, and the prophets to function in the Promised Land?
- In this clip, we continue on a journey with ancient Israel through their wanderings in the wilderness as they prepare to inhabit the land promised to them by God.
  - However, the instructions given to them by God indicate that they are not to simply “relax” once they get there. What does this say about the original promise of land? In other words, does this point to something more that God may have in mind once His People reach the Promised Land?
- Encourage students to take notes in their student guide as they watch and listen to the video clip. Tell them that you will discuss the lecture afterwards.

5. Now fill in the points Dr. Legaspi makes in this video clip.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ radiates from the center of the Tabernacle.
- b. The purpose of the Law is to engender \_\_\_\_\_ so that people may \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
- c. Deuteronomy means \_\_\_\_\_ in Greek.
- d. Who leads the Israelites into Canaan? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. According to Deut. 17, the king of Israel must not be:

- f. By speaking through the prophets, rather than the kings, God preserves His own \_\_\_\_\_.

**Reflection on the Video:**

6. Now that the Israelites are about to find their “rest” in the promised land, why does God give further instructions for once they arrive? What else might God have in mind for the Israelites once His promise of land is fulfilled?
7. What, if any, are the implications for God’s instructions in Deut. 17-18 for the Church today as the People of God?

Depending on the time, you can have them share their responses to questions one question at a time, or you can have them pick one of their answers from the questions to share.

*Close with any of the key points that they might not have addressed in their own sharing/discussion.*

**Visual Aid**

