



## A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families: For the week of November 12, 2017

Note to Discussion Leaders: Have members read the Bible passage in the group meeting. This is a “worship discussion” guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. Read through this guide before meeting with the group. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for the time of meeting together, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Numbers 9:1-14 “Passover”

- What is your favorite family or community feast? Why has that time been so meaningful?
  
- Read Numbers 9:1-5
  - What is the Passover? What did it signify for Israel?
  - How many times had Israel celebrated the Passover before?
  - Read [Exodus 12:12-13,24-27](#) for more insight. What did the blood of the Passover lamb signify?
  
- Read Numbers 9:6-8
  - What challenged some of the Israelites in celebrating the Passover?
  - Why did they express concern to Moses and Aaron?
  
- Read Numbers 9:9-14
  - What provision does the LORD make for those who are ceremonially unclean or travelling on the Passover? What does this say about the significance of the Passover?
  - What happens to those who simply neglect to celebrate the Passover? What does this say about the significance of the Passover?
  - Could a Gentile passing through the Israelite camp observe the Passover? What does this say about the significance of the Passover?
  
- Two Passover conditions were terribly dangerous for the Israelites: (1) Eating while unclean and (2) refusal to participate. In the New Testament, there are similar conditions for participating in the continuing sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.
  - Read [1 Corinthians 11:27-30](#). What are the implications of participating in the Lord’s Supper in an “unworthy manner”?
  - Read [John 6:53](#). What are the implications of refusing to spiritually feed on Christ?
  
- Each Sunday in worship, we read a New Testament reading as a companion to the sermon text from the Book of Numbers. This week’s reading was from [1 Peter 1:18-21](#). In what ways is Jesus the fulfillment of the Old Testament Passover?
  
- As a part of worship we sang the song [Your Great Name](#) which gives Jesus, the Lamb of God, glory for the many ways His atoning sacrifice protects and provides for His people. Remember some of the ways you know the Lord has spared or delivered you, and give Him thanks.

Questions about this week’s study guide? Contact Kevin Greene, [kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org)  
To hear sermons and access past study guides visit [www.wepc.org/archivedsermons](http://www.wepc.org/archivedsermons)

## Sermon Notes

*This week, Steve Shelby preached on [Numbers 9:1-14](#).*

- In today's passage we have the first celebration of the Passover outside of Egypt.
- Before we delve into the passage, we must ask the question, "Why are these people allowed to eat the Passover?"
- God is extending to this people an invitation.
- We see that a proper Passover must adhere to the clear laws God had set down in Exodus on how to do the Passover.
- Next we see the provision for those who have touched a dead body and additionally those who are on a long journey and are unable to participate.
- We see here the extension of inclusion into the community.
- See the Lord does not permit people to eat the Passover in an unclean state, nor does he let them participate (or not) as they wish. He does not pretend there is no problem, all that matters is that your heart is in the right place.
- God wants His people to eat with Him and to celebrate His deliverance of them. Why?
- Who is the stranger who sojourns?
- "And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'This is the statute of the Passover: no foreigner shall eat of it, but every slave that is bought for money may eat of it after you have circumcised him. No foreigner or hired worker may eat of it.'" ([Exodus 12:43-49](#))
- The people invited in to eat the Passover are people who are not ethnically Israelite, but who live among the people of God and identify themselves with the Lord, most particularly through circumcision.