

## A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families: For the week of May 13, 2018

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 25:1-18 “Jealous”

- **Why is it hard to be challenged or disciplined?**

<sup>1</sup> While Israel lived in Shittim, the people began to whore with the daughters of Moab. <sup>2</sup> These invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. <sup>3</sup> So Israel yoked himself to Baal of Peor. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel. <sup>4</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, “Take all the chiefs of the people and hang them in the sun before the LORD, that the fierce anger of the LORD may turn away from Israel.” <sup>5</sup> And Moses said to the judges of Israel, “Each of you kill those of his men who have yoked themselves to Baal of Peor.”

- **As Israel camped at Shittim, what did they begin to do (1-2; [Psalm 106:28](#))? What instigated this rebellion? ([Numbers 31:16](#))**
- **What was the Lord’s response when Israel joined with Baal of Peor (3)?**
- **What did the Lord instruct Moses to have the leaders do to those who joined with Baal of Peor (4-5)?**

<sup>6</sup> And behold, one of the people of Israel came and brought a Midianite woman to his family, in the sight of Moses and in the sight of the whole congregation of the people of Israel, while they were weeping in the entrance of the tent of meeting. <sup>7</sup> When Phinehas the son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose and left the congregation and took a spear in his hand <sup>8</sup> and went after the man of Israel into the chamber and pierced both of them, the man of Israel and the woman through her belly. Thus the plague on the people of Israel was stopped. <sup>9</sup> Nevertheless, those who died by the plague were twenty-four thousand.

<sup>10</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, <sup>11</sup> “Phinehas the son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the priest, has turned back my wrath from the people of Israel, in that he was jealous with my jealousy among them, so that I did not consume the people of Israel in my jealousy. <sup>12</sup> Therefore say, ‘Behold, I give to him my covenant of peace, <sup>13</sup> and it shall be to him and to his descendants after him the covenant of a perpetual priesthood, because he was jealous for his God and made atonement for the people of Israel.’”

<sup>14</sup> The name of the slain man of Israel, who was killed with the Midianite woman, was Zimri the son of Salu, chief of a father’s house belonging to the Simeonites. <sup>15</sup> And the name of the Midianite woman who was killed was Cozbi the daughter of Zur, who was the tribal head of a father’s house in Midian.

<sup>16</sup> And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>17</sup> “Harass the Midianites and strike them down, <sup>18</sup> for they have harassed you with their wives, with which they beguiled you in the matter of Peor, and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of the chief of Midian, their sister, who was killed on the day of the plague on account of Peor.”

- **Who is Phinehas? What moved him to action? What action did Phinehas take (6-8)?**
- **What effect did Phinehas’ actions have (9; [Psalm 106:30](#))?**
- **How did the Lord describe Phinehas’ actions? (10-11)**
- **How did the Lord bless Phinehas? Why? (12-13)**
- **What does it mean that the Lord is jealous?**
- **Does God ever want us to be jealous? In what way?**
- **The name and lineage of the Israelite man and Midianite woman were recorded. Who were they (14-15)?**
- **Have you ever experienced God’s discipline? How so? What fruit did His discipline bear in your life?**
- **What does the Lord command Moses to do with Midian? (16-18)**
- **Ultimately we see the passion and jealousy of God on the Cross of Christ. He would die to make us His own. And Jesus underwent the discipline of the Cross that our sin might be judged. He would die to satisfy God’s just punishment of sinners. Thank God for the atonement of Jesus Christ, and pray that God would make our path straight as we follow Jesus together.**