



Study Guide
Numbers 9-10
All Systems Go!

Introduction

Israel has made preparations to start the journey. Now it's time to go! They were being led by a cloud. This becomes a vivid picture for us that we need a leader.

1. I Need Rescued. Read Numbers 9:1-2.

The Passover, like Communion (Jesus died on Passover as the "Lamb"), serves to remind us regularly of our need for rescue. Never forget the cross! Why do you think this is an important way to start our journey? What impact has the cross of Christ had on your life? Discuss.

2. I Need Guidance. Read Numbers 9:16-17.

God didn't lead Israel by the shortest and easiest way to Canaan. His priority was for them to pick things up along the way that were lessons for success in the promised land. What detours in life have you experienced? What has God taught you through the delays?

3. I Need Prompting. Read Numbers 10:1-2.

The trumpets got their attention. There were various sounds (to gather or to go). How does God get our attention when He wants us to make a move? How does the Holy Spirit "prompt" us at times. Share an experience.

4. All Systems Go! Rely on other a bit. Read Numbers 10:11-13.

Notice how the people set out for the journey in "stages". They relied on each other for their next move. Discuss what it looks like for you to rely on other Christians to help you with your journey.

5. All Systems Go! Rely on God a lot. Read Numbers 10:29.

Moses was nervous to “just” rely on the cloud, so he begged his brother-in-law, Hobab, to go with them (*I don't think he joined them*). Who is your Hobab? What does it look like for you to rely on the Holy Spirit?

Application

Spend some quiet moments reading Psalm 23 and talking with God in your own words about his guidance in your life. Is there anything He is showing you in this time?

Numbers 9-10 All Systems Go

Big Idea: I need a leader.

A. I Need Rescue (9:1-14)

And the Lord spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying, ²“Let the people of Israel keep the Passover at its appointed time.”

“But if anyone who is clean and is not on a journey fails to keep the Passover, that person shall be cut off from his people because he did not bring the Lord's offering at its appointed time; that man shall bear his sin.” Numbers 9:13

B. I Need Guidance (9:15-23)

¹⁶So it was always: the cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night. ¹⁷And whenever the cloud lifted from over the tent, after that the people of Israel set out, and in the place where the cloud settled down, there the people of Israel camped. ...

Exodus 13:21a

“And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way,”

Exodus 13:17-18a

When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, “Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt.” ¹⁸But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea.

Exodus 14:3

“They are entangled in the land, the wilderness has shut them in.”

Exodus 14:24

And in the morning the Lord in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵ clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily.

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1. Led by Priority

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Numbers 9:22

²² Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, abiding there, the people of Israel remained in camp and did not set out, but when it lifted they set out.

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Romans 8:14- "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

2. Led as protection

Numbers 10:35

³⁵ And whenever the ark set out, Moses said, "Arise, O Lord, and let your enemies be scattered, and let those who hate you flee before you."

Exodus 14:24

And in the morning the Lord in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵ clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily.

C. I Need Prompting (10:1-10)

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ² "Make two silver trumpets. Of hammered work you shall make them, and you shall use them for summoning the congregation and for breaking camp.

Gathering sounds: long blasts

Going sounds: short blasts

D. All Systems Go (10:11-36)

1. Rely on Each other *a Bit*

¹¹ In the second year, in the second month, on the twentieth day of the month, the cloud lifted from over the tabernacle of the testimony, ¹² and the people of Israel set out by stages from the wilderness of Sinai. And the cloud settled down in the wilderness of Paran. ¹³ They set out for the first time at the command of the Lord by Moses.

D. All Systems Go (10:11-36)

2. Rely on God a Lot (10:29-36)

²⁹ And Moses said to Hobab ... "Please do not leave us, for you know where we should camp in the wilderness, and you will serve as eyes for us.

³³ So they set out from the mount of the Lord three days' journey. And the ark of the covenant of the Lord went before them three days' journey, to seek out a resting place for them.

Big Idea: I Need a Leader

Psalm 23- I Need a Leader

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

³He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.