A Life Worth Dying For

In the beginning, God created all things good. With the making of humankind as male and female, He even declared His creation to be very good. Paradise was the location; abundant life was the experience, that is, until the taint of sin covered the world through the rebellion of Adam and Eve against their Creator.

As a result, humanity lost its paradise and was separated from the God who created all things good. Death was God’s warning for disobedience, and death became the reality—the death of living apart from God (sin), the death of life (physical death), and the death of eternal separation from God’s goodness (spiritual death).

But the God of all good things was not finished. He called a people to Himself to be a light to the world. He gave them His holy expectations that they should follow them. He made provision for sin through sacrifices. And even when His people continued to rebel against Him, He promised life from death.

In comes Jesus, the Son of God sent into the world to make all things new. “In him was life, and that life was the light of men” (John 1:4). “Full of grace and truth,” Jesus obeyed all of the Father’s holy expectations (1:14). He is “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (1:29). He laid down His life in death on a cross to secure life for those who follow Him (10:11), and He proved it in His resurrection when He took up His life again (10:18). A thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy; Jesus came so we might once again have life and have it in abundance (10:10).

So how should we respond to this good news? By turning from sin (repentance) and believing in Jesus (faith). The one who loves his life will lose it, but the one who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life (12:25). The treasures and pleasures of this world cannot compare to the eternal life found in Jesus.
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In these sessions of *The Gospel Project*, we experience some of the most exciting narratives in Scripture. There are accounts here of sin and judgment, of moral decline and merciful intervention, and of rescuers who need rescue. Through it all, one thing is clear: God is with His people and He is faithful to His promise.

It’s important to keep that central theme in mind because many people read these stories about the conquest of the land and try to find examples for emulation. To be clear, we can learn a lot from these Old Testament heroes (see 1 Cor. 10), but we cannot implement their virtues apart from our connection to the Vine—Jesus Christ Himself, the One who bears fruit in us and through us.

As we walk through our present wilderness, struggling against sin and encountering sorrow, we know that the God who has gone before us is faithful. He is the One who prepares the way for us to be His ambassadors. He is the One who breaks the chains of our idolatry and lifts our gaze to His unchanging glory.
**Shaq Hardy** (unit 7, sessions 1-3) currently serves as the Associate Youth Student Pastor at Brainerd Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He is also working toward a degree in Pastoral Ministry as a student at Southeastern Seminary. He is passionate about seeing those who are far from God become committed followers of Jesus Christ.

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The Rebellion of God’s People

Summary and Goal
As we have looked into the lives of the Israelites, how God delivered them from slavery in Egypt, provided for them in the wilderness, and brought them to the promised land, we have seen God’s patience and faithfulness over and over again. In this session, we will see that the Israelites’ failure to trust God and enter into the land He was giving them was not a small misstep but outright rebellion against Him. We will also see that Israel was not alone in their rebellion. We too have rebelled against God. God created us for His glory, but we all fall short of His glory, and the consequence of our sin is death.

Session Outline
1. Rebellion against God begins by ignoring His provision and promises (Num. 13:1-2,30-33).
2. Rebellion against God impacts others (Num. 14:1-4).
3. Rebellion against God has consequences (Num. 14:30-35).

Session in a Sentence
Rebellion against God is rooted in failing to trust God and always has consequences.

Christ Connection
God’s people rebelled against Him and refused to enter the land He had given them because they failed to trust His provision and promises. Jesus fully trusted the Father and entered the world in obedience, bringing about the fulfillment of God’s promise to provide One to save people from their sin.

Missional Application
Because we have experienced God’s forgiveness of our rebellion through Christ, we trust God as we obey His calling to share His kingdom with the nations.
READ: Tell the story on page 11 in the Daily Discipleship Guide (DDG) about a blind girl stuck in a building that was on fire.

Firefighters responded to the call of a building on fire. Upon arrival, they noticed a girl on the tenth floor, but they could not reach her with their ladder truck because the street was too narrow. So the firefighters set up a net for the girl to jump into. They pleaded with her to jump into the net, doing their best to assure her that she would be safe. But there was a problem: the girl was blind. The girl could not see the net and could not bring herself to trust the pleas and assurances of the firefighters.

Then the girl’s father arrived on the scene, grabbed the bullhorn, and called out to his daughter for her to jump into the net. The girl leapt from the window and landed safely. Throughout the girl’s life, she had trusted the sound of her father’s voice to guide her where she could not see. The girl heard her father’s voice and knew she could trust him because he had faithfully guided her so many times in the past. Because of her trust in the faithfulness of her father, she walked away from the burning building unscathed.¹

INTERACT: Ask group members the following question.

What is the difference between trusting someone you know and trusting someone you do not know? (trusting someone you know is usually easier to do; you will likely trust someone you know over someone you don’t know; trust in someone you know is usually stronger)

EXPLAIN how the story above is both similar to and unlike the Christian life.

• The Christian life is similar to the story of the blind girl: God has promised eternal life, but for that promise to be made a reality in our lives, we have to trust Him. We have to take our Father at His word.

• The Christian life is unlike this story: Our trust in God is not a blind leap. We can trust that God will be faithful to fulfill His promises to us because of who He is and His faithfulness throughout history. We can look back at what God has done so that we can look ahead in full confidence to what He will do.

SUMMARIZE: In this session, we will see that the Israelites’ failure to trust God and enter into the land He was giving them was not a small misstep but outright rebellion against Him. We will also see that Israel was not alone in their rebellion. We too have rebelled against God. God created us for His glory, but we all fall short of His glory, and the consequence of our sin is death.

For additional teaching options and other resources, please visit www.GospelProject.com/additional-resources.
**Point 1: Rebellion against God begins by ignoring His provision and promises (Num. 13:1-2,30-33).**

**SAY:** After the Lord rescued His people from Egypt, He led them into the wilderness to Mount Sinai, where He gave them His law through Moses. They spent about a year there, camped around the mountain. Then the Lord, in the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night, guided them to the edge of the land He had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

**READ** Numbers 13:1-2,30-33 (DDG p. 12).

1 The Lord spoke to Moses: **“Send men to scout out the land of Canaan I am giving to the Israelites. Send one man who is a leader among them from each of their ancestral tribes.”** ..................................................

30 Then Caleb quieted the people in the presence of Moses and said, “Let’s go up now and take possession of the land because we can certainly conquer it!”

31 But the men who had gone up with him responded, “We can’t attack the people because they are stronger than we are!” 32 So they gave a negative report to the Israelites about the land they had scouted: “The land we passed through to explore is one that devours its inhabitants, and all the people we saw in it are men of great size. 33 We even saw the Nephilim there—the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim! To ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and we must have seemed the same to them.”

**EXPLAIN:** Use the first paragraph in the DDG (p. 12) and the content below to reinforce how God had demonstrated His faithfulness to the Israelites.

God promised the Israelites the land of Canaan, and He had also showed them, quite clearly, that He had the power to make good on that promise because He had made good on another promise—deliverance from Egypt. But Israel’s ability to take residence in the promised land was contingent on their faithfulness to the God who had always been faithful to them.

- In Exodus 6:6-8, God promised the people of Israel that He would deliver them from the hand of Pharaoh and into the freedom of the promised land.
- In Exodus 7–14, God sent the ten plagues to break Pharaoh’s will, He parted the Red Sea so the Israelites could escape, and He caused the Red Sea to flow back together and crush the pursuing Egyptian army.
- In Exodus 15–17, God provided water for the Israelites to drink in the wilderness and bread and quail for the people to eat.
- In Exodus 17, the Lord gave the Israelites victory over the nation of Amalek, who came to fight them.
INTERACT: Ask group members the following question.

What are some things in your life you can remember to help you remain faithful to God? (be prepared to give an answer of your own to jump-start the conversation)

EXPLAIN: Put the spies’ report in perspective, referencing the second paragraph in the DDG (p. 12). Note especially the distinction between the ten spies who were afraid and Caleb and Joshua who feared the Lord.

The spies Moses sent saw that the land was flowing with milk and honey, confirming the truth of what God had said about the land, and they acknowledged this before the people (Num. 13:27). But when they spoke about the cities and the people in the land, their report turned negative (vv. 28-29,31-33). Ten of the spies saw their own weakness and stopped there, but Caleb and Joshua looked through their weakness and looked upon God. The spies may have felt like grasshoppers compared to the people in the land, but the people of the land were not even ants compared to the God of Israel. All the Israelites had to do was trust in God’s power and faithfulness. Sadly, they did not.

- It was true that the Israelites were not mighty (Deut. 7:7). They were not trained warriors, they did not have superior weapons, and they were not a world power. And it was also true that the people of the land were strong and that they lived in fortified cities. But God had promised to hand the inhabitants of the land into the hands of His people.

- Sometimes God places opposition in our lives that we clearly can’t handle to teach us to lean on Him and not on ourselves. In this, God is good and kind to allow us to face such opposition so we remember the truth that our salvation is from God.

Commentary: “The reference to the descendants of Anak as Nephilim was designed to instill fear in the hearts of the Israelites. The Nephilim, ‘fallen ones’ (‘giants’ in the LXX), are noted in Genesis 6:4 as the offspring of the ‘sons of God’ (‘angelic beings’ or ‘divine warriors’) and the ‘daughters of men.’ The Nephilim were of large stature, but they all would have been destroyed in Noah’s flood (Gen. 6:11), so it is best to conclude that the frightened spies gave an exaggerated report.”

SAY: Just as He had with the Israelites, God has shown us that we have every reason to trust and obey Him. Yet in our foolishness, at times we have found it easier to trust in our sin instead of God because we can see it, we can feel it, and it gives us instant gratification. So like the Israelites, we too have stared into the freedom and bounty of the promised land and foolishly longed for the captivity and despair of Egypt.
**Point 2: Rebellion against God impacts others (Num. 14:1-4).**

**READ:** Ask a volunteer to read Numbers 14:1-4 (DDG p. 13).

1 Then the whole community broke into loud cries, and the people wept that night. 2 All the Israelites complained about Moses and Aaron, and the whole community told them, “If only we had died in the land of Egypt, or if only we had died in this wilderness! 3 Why is the Lord bringing us into this land to die by the sword? Our wives and children will become plunder. Wouldn’t it be better for us to go back to Egypt?” 4 So they said to one another, “Let’s appoint a leader and go back to Egypt.”

**EXPLAIN:** Use the first paragraph in the DDG (p. 13) to show how the Israelites’ fear stemmed from their unbelieving hearts.

The Israelites failed to trust that God is faithful, which led to disobedience as they refused to enter the land He promised them. The Israelites’ response was not a surprise to God. Their rebellion against Him only revealed the sinfulness that was already deep in their hearts, of which God was fully aware (1 Sam. 16:7). Because of their unbelieving hearts, the Israelites complained like a people who were without hope, though God had made it plain to them that He would provide for them and protect them from their enemies.

**INTERACT:** Ask group members the following question.

What are some things that our actions reveal about our hearts?  
(obedience to God’s commands should reveal faith; disobedience reveals unbelief; actions out of fear reveal that we don’t trust God to take care of us; sinful actions reveal a selfish, self-focused heart; sin reveals rebellion against God in our hearts)
**FILL IN THE BLANKS:** Provide group members with the answers for the call-out in their DDG (p. 13).

**Sin as Rebellion:** The Bible often portrays sin in terms of defiance and rebellion toward **God the King**. Sin is personal and willful disobedience, the raising of a **clenched fist** toward the One who made us.

**Essential Doctrine “Sin as Rebellion”:** Because the Bible portrays people as responsible beings, called to respond in faith and obedience to God’s revelation, the Bible often portrays sin in terms of defiance and rebellion toward **God the King**. Isaiah 1:2 is one of many passages that describes sin in terms of rebellion against God: “I have raised children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against Me.” Seen in this light, sin is personal and willful disobedience, the raising of a **clenched fist** toward the One who made us.

**EXPLAIN** how the Israelites’ rebellion impacted others, referencing the second paragraph in the DDG (p. 13). Connect the impact of their rebellion with the impact on others from our own rebellion.

The Israelites, swayed by the negative report of the ten spies, decided it would be best for them to choose a new leader for themselves and return to Egypt, to the place of their captivity. Therefore, they threatened to kill the leaders God had placed over them (Num. 14:10). Furthermore, their rebellion deserved immediate judgment from God, but Moses interceded for them once again on account of God’s glory before the nations, and He relented (vv. 11-19). The sin of the Israelites affected the way they viewed the leaders God had given them, and it had the potential of affecting how the nations around them viewed God.

- When we sin, even sin that’s done in the dark, we are not the only ones affected. Our sin always affects those around us, directly or indirectly, whether we see it or not. Our sin has the ability to hurt those around us and cause us to disdain the godly wisdom that God makes available to us through others. The result is often a compounding of our sin. One sin leads to another as our hearts are further hardened against God, leading us to hurt others.

- Our sin also has the ability to cause those around us, both believers and non-believers, to see God as someone He is not—One who encourages or tolerates sin. Therefore, we must be careful to obey all that God commands (Deut. 8:1). The truth is that we are broken by sin, so we will mess up, and these mess-ups may very well affect the way people see God. But God can redeem even the most sinful of actions. When we repent of our sin and turn from rebellion to obedience, the grace of God is proclaimed, believers are called to walk in faith, and sinners are called to turn to Christ in faith.
Point 3: Rebellion against God has consequences (Num. 14:30-35).

READ Numbers 14:30-35 (p. 14).

30 I swear that none of you will enter the land I promised to settle you in, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun. 31 I will bring your children whom you said would become plunder into the land you rejected, and they will enjoy it. 32 But as for you, your corpses will fall in this wilderness. 33 Your children will be shepherds in the wilderness for forty years and bear the penalty for your acts of unfaithfulness until all your corpses lie scattered in the wilderness. 34 You will bear the consequences of your iniquities forty years based on the number of the forty days that you scouted the land, a year for each day. You will know my displeasure. 35 I, the Lord, have spoken. I swear that I will do this to the entire evil community that has conspired against me. They will come to an end in the wilderness, and there they will die.”

EXPLAIN: Using the first paragraph in the DDG (p. 14) and the content below, highlight the purpose for which we were created—to glorify God. Emphasize that salvation is one of the greatest ways God makes His glory known.

God’s glory is paramount to Him, and by extension, it should be for us as well. That’s why He created us—to glorify Him (Isa. 43:7). That is why He formed a nation through Abraham and his descendants, so that He might be glorified through His great and glorious acts of redemption. Yes, God has a faithful love for His people; He is great in His compassion and mercy. But these are not all that drive Him. His glory does too. The wondrous beauty of it all is that the salvation of people is one of the greatest ways God makes His glory known. The Israelites missed this and suffered the consequences.

- As with the Israelites, the primary purpose of our lives is to glorify God. It’s what we were designed to do. We are to do everything with this singular focus (1 Cor. 10:31). If we do so, we will not only fulfill our created purpose, but we will also experience the abundant life that comes through Jesus (John 10:10).
- If we live for anything else other than the glory of God, our lives will fall apart. Nothing but God can sustain us. The great tragedy of humanity is that we all fall short of what we were created to do—glorify God (Rom. 3:23). But in His faithfulness, in Christ, God has promised to save us where we fall short.

INTERACT: Ask group members the following question.

How can we glorify God and make His glory known through our lives? (by doing what He commands; by telling others about the wonderful things He has done, most notably the gospel of Jesus Christ; by living with a heart toward repentance and faith; by acknowledging God in Christ as our Savior from sin)
READ the second paragraph in the DDG (p. 14) to explain that “the wages of sin is death” and God’s patience for sinners does not last forever.

In Numbers 14:30-35 we see the chilling reality of the consequences of sin. The Israelites had disobeyed God time and time again, and time and time again, God had been patient with them (v. 11). But now their rebellion had earned their eventual death in the wilderness because “the wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23). God had been patient with these people, but God’s patience does not mean He will spare sinners from the consequences of their sin forever.

**Commentary:** Sin is serious because it offends God. When we sin, we are sinning against a holy, righteous, just, and eternal God. Therefore, our sin deserves a holy, righteous, just, and eternal punishment. The reason why we earn death from our sin is because sin is rebellion against and rejection of the one, true God, who is the source of all life (John 1:4).

**PACK ITEM 2: GOD’S PATIENCE:** Direct the attention of your group to the Spurgeon quote on this poster. Emphasize that God’s patience with persistent unbelief may be long but not forever. God’s patience is an opportunity for salvation (2 Pet. 3:15), so we should respond in one of two ways:

- **Sinners should respond to God’s patience with repentance and faith.** God spared Caleb and Joshua from dying in the wilderness of judgment because they had a different spirit and followed God fully; in other words, they had faith in God (Num. 14:24). In God’s kindness, He responds to faith to rescue people from death. This is the essence of the gospel: God sent His Son, Christ Jesus, into the world to take the punishment of our sin on Himself. He laid down His life and He pleads for the lives of those who trust in Him, and He saves them from the eternal punishment for sin.

- **Christians should respond with an urgency to share the gospel with the world.** God wants everyone to repent of their sin and turn to Christ in faith (2 Pet. 3:9), but we must not presume upon His patience for others. Instead, we share the gospel faithfully and urgently so they too may believe for eternal life. For this, Christ has sent us into the world to proclaim the message of salvation.

**INTERACT:** Ask group members the following question.

> What should it look like to share the gospel with urgency? (praying constantly for unbelievers; looking for ways to love and serve others in the name of Jesus; sharing the gospel with boldness, regardless of our fears or the potential consequences)
EXPLAIN: Understanding the rebellious nature of our sin and its consequences should shape the way we see grace. We know that grace is the unmerited favor of God. We know that it is a beautiful gift from a loving God. But we must never forget that it was for grace that Jesus went to the cross, and now He sends us with this gospel message. When God commanded the Israelites to go into the land of Canaan and take possession of it, He promised to go before them and ensure the victory. God promised to do the work; all they had to do was obey. It is the same today with Christ’s command to take the gospel to all nations (Matt. 28:18-20). It is a command that comes with the presence and power of God. God does the work; we simply walk in obedience, trusting Him to be faithful. The land is before us—what will we do?

READ the following missional application statement in the DDG (p. 15), and encourage group members to choose at least one of the options below as a way to respond to the truth of God’s Word.

Because we have experienced God’s forgiveness of our rebellion through Christ, we trust God as we obey His calling to share His kingdom with the nations.

- How will you respond in faith to God’s patience toward rebellion?
- What are some ways your group can remind one another of God’s faithfulness and encourage each other toward obedience?
- How will you share the gospel of Jesus Christ with urgency in the coming days?

CLOSE IN PRAYER: Father, You are holy, just, and always trustworthy. Yet in our rebellion, we believe and act otherwise. Thank You for the forgiveness You have provided through Your Son, Jesus. Help us by the power of the Spirit to become more like Christ as we seek to trust and obey You in all circumstances and in taking the gospel to the nations. Amen.

INSTRUCT: As your group departs, encourage group members to read and respond to the Daily Study devotions in their DDG (pp. 16-18), which build and expand upon the group study. Also advocate for small groups or families to use Encourage One Another (p. 19) for mutual accountability and fellowship grounded upon the foundation of God’s Word.
Daily Discipleship

Throughout the week following the session, use the ideas below to remind and encourage your group members to live as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Daily Study devotions in the DDG (pp. 16-18) will help group members get into God’s Word and study it for themselves. Encourage One Another (p. 19) will help group members and families fellowship with one another with purpose.

Daily Study

Brief daily devotions in the DDG (pp. 16-18) will help group members take initiative in their own discipleship.

- Make sure all group members have access to a Bible to read. Have some Bibles available to give to guests who may need one, or offer to get one and arrange a time to meet to give it and show how to navigate it for the devotions.
- Share the following idea from the devotion for Day 1 as a part of point 1 in the session: When we see God for who He is and what He has done, we then can properly see ourselves for who we are.

Consider leading by example and reading the daily devotions yourself with your own DDG. Based on your study, use brief messages throughout the week (group text, email, social media) to encourage your group to keep up with their daily time in God’s Word and to live it out. Here are a couple of examples you can use:

- Day 3: “God has revealed Himself to us so that we would turn to Him in faith and love Him and then, through that faith and love, obey Him.”
- Day 4: “Having anything without God is far worse than having nothing with God.”

Visit www.GospelProject.com/Blog for additional content and resources you can use to help group members gain more insight into their daily studies. Send group members a link or a portion of a blog post or other content that you believe will be helpful and encouraging for their time in God’s Word.

Encourage One Another

This brief plan for fellowship and accountability in the group member’s DDG (p. 19) will help groups of 2-4 people to meet sometime during the week to reflect on the session and to share how God is working and they are responding. It could also be used for family discipleship with students and children who are using The Gospel Project in their groups.

- Encourage group members to remind one another that no sinner is too rebellious for God’s saving grace. If someone is breathing, there is still hope.
- See yourself as a member of the group who also needs encouragement in the faith, and participate in such a group this week.
Additional Commentary

Point 1: Rebellion against God begins by ignoring His provision and promises (Num. 13:1-2,30-33).

“In light of Moses’ rehearsal of the sequence of events in the sending of the spies in Deuteronomy 1:19-46, in which we learn that the initiative to spy out the land came from the people, not from God, one should likely put the instruction from the Lord to ‘send some men to explore’ subsequent to the initial request of the people. Moses thought well of the idea and chose the men for the reconnaissance mission under God’s direction.”

“We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are. This statement reflects lack of faith in the Lord, for the spies are evaluating the situation only from a human perspective. As a result, they have no courage. By contrast, trust in the Lord would produce genuine courage, as it does when the people of Israel are given a second opportunity to enter and conquer the Promised Land after 40 years of wandering in the wilderness (cf. Josh. 1:5-9).”

“The report began positively; the land flowed with ‘milk and honey’ … The tone of the report, however, quickly turned negative. The spies testified that the people who lived in the land were powerful and the cities were large and fortified. Specifically, the spies mentioned the descendants of Anak, the Amalekites, the Hittites, the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Nephilim. The sons of Anak were notoriously large warriors who lived in the western region of Canaan in the cities of Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod … Some scholars believe the mentioning of the Nephilim may have been an exaggeration for rhetorical effect; they were a legendary people thought to be semi-divine (Gen. 6:1-4). The land that ‘flowed with milk and honey’ had turned into a land that ‘devours’ (Num. 13:32). The spies were not referring to cannibalism but to the fact that the people of Canaan had warlike inclinations and were well prepared for battle.”

Point 2: Rebellion against God impacts others (Num. 14:1-4).

“This rebellion was different from the one involving the golden calf (Ex. 32–33). In that incident, the people had not rejected God but had made an image to represent him and lead them on their journey to the promised land. But now the Israelites refused God’s offer and denied his promises. In the plain sense of the word, they rejected God. They also rejected the leaders God had given them and suggested choosing their own leader who would take them back to Egypt (14:4). The people’s desire to go back to Egypt and to choose their own leader aroused God’s wrath because it was a total rejection of ‘the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery’ (Ex. 20:2).”
“The grumbling rebellion against God and his gift of the land reached a climax when the Israelite congregation moaned, if only we had died in the land of Egypt. Persons in fear and depression tend to focus on the negative side of events and circumstances rather than turning their hearts and minds to God, the source of hope and deliverance.”

Point 3: Rebellion against God has consequences (Num. 14:30-35).

“Instead of the Israelites’ children being enslaved in Canaan as they feared, their children would be held for forty years in the desert by their parents’ sin and would share their suffering. Then the children would inherit the land and enjoy what their parents had rejected (14:31-35). The whole family would experience what it is like to have the Lord against them, and no one would forget the lesson.”

“As with Caleb and Joshua, the Israelite children would not perish in the wilderness; they would be punished less severely. They would suffer deprivation and various temptations in the austerity of the desert. Punishment for the sins of the fathers could last for generations, as noted before in the Moses and Yahweh speeches. Those whom they thought would be taken into slavery in the wars against the Canaanites and Amalekites would instead continue in the traditional role of pastoral nomads, shepherding their flocks of sheep and goats in the austerity and barrenness of the Paran Wilderness. The children of the unfaithful Israelites would bear this lengthy punishment for the gross infidelity of their fathers. The term used to describe this infidelity is zenûtekem, which is normally used in the context of sexual immorality and (metaphorically) for idolatry. The text reads literally, “They [your children] shall bear your fornications [harlotries]” … Bearing the guilt of their fathers’ spiritual adultery meant that the forty years in the wilderness was the necessary reparation or punitive consequence of their rebellion.”

References
1. Adapted from Tony Evans’ Book of Illustrations, by Tony Evans (Chicago, IL; Moody, 2009) [eBook].
WHAT’S NEXT?

Fall 2018  
In the Beginning  
Creation and the Fall (Genesis; Job)
God Establishes a Covenant People (Genesis)
God Grows His Covenant People (Genesis)

Winter 2018-19  
Out of Egypt  
God Redeems His People (Genesis; Exodus)
God Provides for His People (Exodus)
God Receives Worship from His People (Exodus; Leviticus)

Spring 2019  
Into the Promised Land  
God Guides His People (Numbers; Deuteronomy)
God Gives His People a Home (Joshua)
God Delivers His People (Judges; Ruth)

Summer 2019  
A Kingdom Provided  
God Provides a King (1 Samuel)
God Provides a Godly King (1–2 Samuel; Psalms)
God Provides a Wise King (1 Kings; Ecclesiastes)

Fall 2019  
A Nation Divided  
God Speaks to His People (1–2 Kings)
God Judges the Sin of His People (2 Kings; Prophets)
God Shows Mercy to His People (2 Chronicles; Prophets)

Winter 2019-20  
A People Restored  
God Sustains His People (1 Kings)
God Restores His People (Ezra; Prophets)
God Prepares His People (Nehemiah; Esther; Malachi)

Spring 2020  
Jesus the Messiah  
Jesus Comes into the World (Luke)
Jesus Begins His Ministry (Gospels)
Jesus Among the People (Gospels)

Summer 2020  
Jesus the Servant  
Jesus the Healer (Gospels)
Jesus the Teacher (Gospels)
Jesus the Miracle-Worker (Gospels)

Fall 2020  
Jesus the Savior  
Jesus and the Kingdom (Gospels)
Jesus the Savior (Gospels)
Jesus the Risen King (Gospels)

Winter 2020-21  
The Mission Begins  
The Holy Spirit Comes (Acts; Epistles)
Fundamentals of the Faith (Acts; Epistles)
New Life in Christ (Acts; Epistles)

Spring 2021  
The Church United  
Living Like Jesus (Acts; Hebrews)
The Sent Church (Acts; Epistles)
Don’t Forget (Acts; Epistles)

Summer 2021  
All Things New  
Paul in Prison (Acts; Epistles)
Facing Adversity (Acts; Epistles)
Jesus Will Come Again (Revelation)
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