# PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE



Sermon Date: 01/03/2020 Text(s): Numbers 20:1 – 13 Title: Seeking To Finish Well Preacher: Rev Jason Phua

(The sermon recording and slides are available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

# READ (5 mins)

(Read the Bible texts, quietly or aloud)

## Numbers 20:1–13 (ESV)

1 And the people of Israel, the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh. And Miriam died there and was buried there.
2 Now there was no water for the congregation. And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

**3** And the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the LORD!

**4** Why have you brought the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle?

**5** And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is no water to drink."

**6** Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them, **7** and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

**8** "Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle."

9 And Moses took the staff from before the LORD, as he commanded him.

**10** Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?"

**11** And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock.

**12** And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them."

**13** These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarreled with the LORD, and through them he showed himself holy.

### REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect on key themes and questions in the text)



- 1. Many of God's people did not finish their earthly journey very well. The first generation of Israelites who escaped slavery in Egypt all ended badly in the wilderness. Even Miriam, Aaron and Moses did not make it into the Promised Land. Why do you think this happens so frequently, even today?
- 2. The preacher mentioned 3 spiritual habits are needed to ensure we end well. The first is gratefulness. The Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron many times. Sometimes they grumbled about the food they had or the lack of it. Other times they grumbled about the lack of water. Why do you think the Israelites chose to grumble instead of choosing gratefulness? Is gratefulness a difficult habit to adopt? What do you think?
- 3. The second spiritual habit is obedience. The Israelites were delivered from slavery in Egypt, crossed the Red Sea by the power of God, and were now free. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, many seem to value freedom above all else, especially those in the Western world. Why do we find it difficult to stay in obedience when we are free to obey, when we have been set free to obey?
- 4. The third spiritual habit is trust; the trust we give to God for the future. What does it mean to trust God with our lives? What does it mean to trust God in our situations? What does trusting God mean to you?

#### RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate and apply God's word to our daily lives)

- 1. Today I am grateful for...Complete the sentence and share one thing you are grateful to God for.
- 2. How can we as an LG help one another to cultivate gratefulness, obedience, and trust in our lives, the 3 spiritual habits we've looked at?

#### REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another) (Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for weekly guide)

- Pray for one another to grow in gratefulness, obedience and trust, and through these spiritual habits to finish well.
- Pray for others in your family or circle of friends who need prayer support.
- Remember to pray for our church and churches in Singapore to continue as godly witnesses to Singapore and beyond.