

# PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

## LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE



**Sermon Date: 15/03/2020**

**Text(s): Numbers 27:1–8; 36:5–9**

**Title: The 5 Daughters of Zelophehad**

**Preacher: Rev Dr Jonathan Seet**

(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 27:1–8 (ESV)**

**1** Then drew near the daughters of Zelophehad the son of Hopher, son of Gilead, son of Machir, son of Manasseh, from the clans of Manasseh the son of Joseph. The names of his daughters were: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.

**2** And they stood before Moses and before Eleazar the priest and before the chiefs and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, saying,

**3** “Our father died in the wilderness. He was not among the company of those who gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah, but died for his own sin. And he had no sons.

**4** Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us a possession among our father’s brothers.”

**5** Moses brought their case before the LORD.

**6** And the LORD said to Moses,

**7** “The daughters of Zelophehad are right. You shall give them possession of an inheritance among their father’s brothers and transfer the inheritance of their father to them.

**8** And you shall speak to the people of Israel, saying, ‘If a man dies and has no son, then you shall transfer his inheritance to his daughter.

#### **Numbers 36:5–9 (ESV)**

**5** And Moses commanded the people of Israel according to the word of the LORD, saying, “The tribe of the people of Joseph is right.

**6** This is what the LORD commands concerning the daughters of Zelophehad: ‘Let them marry whom they think best, only they shall marry within the clan of the tribe of their father.

**7** The inheritance of the people of Israel shall not be transferred from one tribe to another, for every one of the people of Israel shall hold on to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.

**8** And every daughter who possesses an inheritance in any tribe of the people of Israel shall be wife to one of the clan of the tribe of her father, so that every one of the people of Israel may possess the inheritance of his fathers.

**9** So no inheritance shall be transferred from one tribe to another, for each of the tribes of the people of Israel shall hold on to its own inheritance.’ ”

## **REFLECT (30 mins)**

(Reflect on key themes and questions in the text)



- 1. The laws of inheritance state that only sons get to inherit from their father. This naturally stirs up feelings of unfairness. Do you have the same feelings on this right now?**
  
- 2. The 5 daughters of Zelophehad spoke up and appealed to Moses about their predicament. They could have been easily accused of being too vocal or of intentionally wanting to stir trouble or even wanting to rebel against the laws of the Lord. Would you speak up when there is a legitimate reason to speak up? Have you spoken up before in a situation where your intention was right and your principle in line with Scripture?**
  
- 3. The ruling Moses gave from God is that daughters of Zelophehad may inherit from their father who had no son, but they must marry within their own tribe so that the land remains within their tribe. How is it that God gave Moses the permission to change the law, albeit within boundaries? Does this say anything about God's character?**
  
- 4. The curse of Jeconiah is that none of his offspring is to sit on the throne of Israel (refer to the sermon slides). Matthew 1 tells us that Joseph was a descendant of Jeconiah. Joseph had a legal right to the throne but, as a descendant of Jeconiah, he was not permitted to inherit the throne. God resolved this by bypassing the lineage of Jeconiah, by giving birth to Jesus by the Holy Spirit, through Mary. The Bible tells us that Mary had no brother. Therefore, as a woman without a brother, she had the right to be an inheritor. Because of this Jesus could be called a Son of David through the lineage of Mary, when it could not happen through the lineage of Joseph. What are your thoughts right now concerning God's wisdom and authority?**

## **RELATE (30 mins)**

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



- 1. Zelophehad may have been sad that he had no sons but only daughters. But that paved the way for the Messiah to be born as a Son of David through the lineage of Mary instead of through the lineage of Joseph. Did you have a situation where you, too, felt sad that something didn't go your way? Share one incident where God made a way for you when there was no way, of how God brought something beautiful out of that challenging situation.**
  
- 2. God's wisdom is infinite. His power and authority has no comparison. But we human being are limited in our wisdom. Some people are in positions of power and authority but in this COVID-19 situation, even those in power and authority quickly find out how limited their power is. How can we learn to tap on God's wisdom, power and authority? Have you learned to rely on God's wisdom, power and authority?**

## **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 receive wisdom, understanding and strength from God's Word and His Holy Spirit to overcome every challenge in life.
- 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.