

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, September 29, 2024 (Pentecost 19)

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Discussion Starters

1. Who is stirring up dissension among the Israelites? Why has the attitude of the people changed so drastically and so quickly?
2. What is the impact of all these complaints on Moses? How do you handle the complaints and criticisms of other people?
3. Why does Moses wish that everyone would prophesy like the 70 elders?
4. How does God address the complaints the people are raising?
5. What does this passage teach you about God?

James 5:13-20

Discussion Starters

1. Have you ever been "prayed over" in a manner like this text describes? Have you ever prayed over someone else? What was the experience like? What was the result?
2. What does James want to see happen when he encourages his readers to confess their sins to each other? What do you think James means when he says that such confession brings healing?
3. If verse 15 is true, why do sick people sometimes die?
4. What is your typical response when you see a fellow Christian stray away from God? What should our response be? In practical terms, what does that look like?

Mark 9:38-50

Discussion Starters

1. Why did the disciples stop the miracle worker, and why did Jesus tell them not to do so?
2. Jesus uses dramatic imagery to emphasize His point about the problem of sin. Short of amputation, how can we stop sinning?
3. How can salt lose its "saltiness?" What is the impact of losing it?
4. In what way(s) can you be salt this week?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?