

Sermon Notes

"Warning Against Selfish Ambition"

Numbers 16:1-40

August 21, 2022

4. The Lord reveals through Moses the rebels' true motives. What are they (16:5, 10, 13-14 [w/ 11:4-5; 14:3-4], 40)? Who does Moses say the rebels are really at odds with (16:11, 30)?

5. When have you been tempted to attack someone else's character in an effort to elevate your own status?

6. Korah's initial argument is a classic construction of a false conclusion built upon a true premise. Was it indeed true that God had set the whole Israelite community apart as holy for his purposes (Exodus 19:6)? Was it true that the LORD was with them (Exodus 29:45)? On the basis of this, they concluded that everyone had the same status and responsibility before the Lord. What revelation did they leave out (Numbers 1:51; 3:10, 38)?

7. Are you ever tempted to use part of God's word to support what you want, rather than allowing its entirety to shape your wants?

Let's Pray

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 8-21-2022

Adapted from *Life Application Study Bible, New International Version*, Tyndale House Publishers, Carol Stream, IL, 2005, p. 219.

Digging Deeper:

Read Numbers 16:1-40.

1. In 16:9, Moses asks "Isn't it enough for you that the God of Israel has ...?" Consider the privileges of the position of each of the rebellious groups in this narrative.

Korah and the Kohathite Levites (16:9-10; 3:29-32; 4:4-15; 10:21)

Dathan and Abiram, the Reubenites (1:20-21; 2:10-17)

The "250 Israelite men, well-known community leaders who had been appointed members of the council" (16:2; 1:16; 4:34)

2. Where has desire for what someone else has made you discontented with what you already have?
3. What accusations do the rebels make (and imply) against Moses and Aaron (16:3, 12-15, 28)? Was there any truth to this?