

# Lesson

## Bible Lesson: Numbers 7

### 1. Engaging Introduction

Gather around, children! Today we're going to learn about a very special part of the Bible found in Numbers chapter 7. Have you ever helped your parents with a big event like a birthday party or a family gathering? Maybe you helped set the table, blow up balloons, or bake cookies. When everyone pitches in, things run smoothly, right? Well, in Numbers 7, we see something kind of similar happening. It's a story about the Israelites and a big offering they made.

The Israelites were God's chosen people and they were on a journey to the Promised Land, a special place God promised to give them. On their journey, God gave them something very important called the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle was like a portable church—an important place where they could worship God together, talk to Him, and receive guidance.

Building and using the Tabernacle required a lot of work and resources. So, how did the Israelites handle this big responsibility? Every tribe in the community gave offerings. In Numbers 7, we see leaders from each tribe bringing gifts to God. Imagine it like a parade where each family brings their presents to show how thankful they are and to help with the work of the Tabernacle. All their gifts were presented to God and used for the service of the Tabernacle.

Let's dig a bit deeper to understand what this all means and how it can teach us something important about giving and working together.

### 2. Main Teaching Points

First, let's talk about the importance of working together. Just like when you have a big task at home or school, it's much easier and more fun when everyone joins in. In Numbers 7, all twelve tribes of Israel contributed to the Tabernacle. Each tribe brought specific items like silver plates, gold pans, and animals for sacrifices. By sharing the work, no single tribe was overwhelmed, and everyone felt like an important part of God's work.

Think of it like building a giant puzzle. If just one person is working on it, it'll take a long time. But if all your friends help, each person can work on a little part and, before you know it, the whole puzzle is complete! In the same way, when the Israelites worked together, they were able to accomplish something big for God's glory.

Now, let's consider the role of giving. The Israelites didn't just give money; they gave what they had—animals, plates made of precious metals, and other important items. Giving was an expression of their love and gratitude to God. It showed they were willing to share their best to honor God. Think about a time when you gave a gift that meant a lot to you. Maybe you gave a toy or your time to a friend or to your school. That kind of giving comes from the heart and shows love.

Imagine if each person said, "My small gift doesn't matter," and decided not to give anything at all. The Tabernacle wouldn't have had everything it needed! In God's community, every contribution counts, big or small. This teaches us that everyone, even you, can make a difference.

Let's realize the significance of obedience to God's instructions. In Numbers 7, the Israelites

followed God's instructions carefully. They didn't bring whatever they wanted; they brought exactly what God had instructed. This obedience demonstrated their trust in God and respect for His plan.

Have you ever followed instructions for building with LEGO blocks? If the instructions say to use a red block and you use a blue one, it might not fit together as it should. The same happens when we follow God's instructions precisely. When we do what He says, we're showing we trust Him and want to do things the right way.

Finally, we learn about the joy of giving. Numbers 7 might not mention it outright, but imagine the joy the Israelites felt as each tribe presented their gifts and worked toward a common goal. Picture yourself finishing a school project or helping a friend—there's happiness in seeing the results of your hard work and contributions.

This joy isn't just about making something for God; it also comes from being part of a community working together for a common purpose. In the church, or any community, when everyone pitches in, hearts grow closer to one another and to God.

Now that we've explored these points, let's think about how this applies to us.

### 3. Personal Application for Elementary Students

So, what can we learn from this old story of the Israelites and their offerings for the Tabernacle? First, consider how you can be helpful and work with others. Just like the Israelites, you have unique things to offer. Maybe it's helping your family with chores, working with classmates on a school project, or cheering up a friend who's feeling down. What you give matters, just like how each tribe's offerings mattered to God.

When everyone shares the work, good things happen. Look around and see how you might contribute your time, energy, or talents to make a difference. If you're part of a church or a community group, ask how you can help. Remember, God values your contributions, no matter how small.

Think about how you can give from your heart. It's not always about giving things, but also about giving love, kindness, and time. When you give a hug to a friend or share your toys, you're already practicing this kind of giving. Like the Israelites who gave their treasures to God, you can give something meaningful, showing gratitude and love to God and those around you.

Finally, joy can come from what you give, not just what you get. When you help out or give something special, notice how it feels inside. Maybe you feel proud or happy because you did something nice or helped someone else. That's the joy of giving! When you give with a cheerful heart, you reflect God's love and make your world a better place.

Remember, just like the Israelites had roles to play, you have a special part in your family, school, and church. See your contributions and efforts as important pieces of a bigger picture. God thinks what you do is important, and so do the people around you!

### 4. Interactive Discussion Questions with Explanation and Teaching Guidance

Now, let's talk about what we've learned with some questions. These aren't just to test your memory but to help us think more deeply about the lesson.

Question 1: Why do you think it was important for each tribe to bring their own gifts for the

Tabernacle?

- Discussion Guidance: Encourage students to think about teamwork. Highlight that when everyone contributes, it builds a sense of community. Explain that each tribe had special gifts to offer and how those combined efforts made a big impact, much like classmates each doing their part in a group project.

Question 2: Can you think of a time when you helped with something important? How did it feel?

- Discussion Guidance: Draw out personal experiences from the students. By sharing their stories, they'll see the practical application of the lesson. Explain that their contributions, however small, can have a significant effect and reflect God's love to others.

Question 3: What are some ways you can give or help others in your community?

- Discussion Guidance: Brainstorm with the students practical ways they can serve. This can range from helping collect donations at church, being kind to a new student at school, or sharing their things with siblings. Reinforce that giving isn't just about things but about time and kindness.

Question 4: How does following instructions show trust and respect?

- Discussion Guidance: Use examples like following rules at school or home. Stress that following God's instructions shows that we trust Him and respect His wisdom, similar to how following a recipe perfectly ensures a yummy cake!

Conclude this interactive part by affirming the students. Remind them that they each have valuable gifts and contributions to make. Encourage them to think of small ways to practice giving and teamwork in their everyday lives.

So, as we wrap up, let's remember that being part of God's family means sharing what we have, working together, and giving joyfully, just like the Israelites did in the story from Numbers 7.