

FEBRUARY 26, 1989

DEUTERONOMY 3:23-27

NUMBERS 20:1-12

II SAMUEL 12:15-23

GOD SAID "NO" TO MOSES

GOD DOESN'T GIVE US EVERYTHING WE ASK HIM TO GIVE US. SOMETIMES GOD HAS TO SAY "NO" TO THE THINGS WE ASK FOR WHEN WE PRAY.

SOMETIMES GOD SAYS "NO" TO OUR PRAYERS BECAUSE WE ASK FOR THINGS WE DON'T REALLY NEED. OTHER TIMES GOD SAYS "NO" TO OUR PRAYERS BECAUSE WE DISOBEY HIS RULES.

ONCE GOD SAID "NO" TO ONE OF MOSES' PRAYERS. MOSES WANTED, VERY MUCH, TO BE THE LEADER TO TAKE THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL ACROSS THE JORDAN RIVER AND INTO THE LAND GOD HAD GIVEN THEM TO BE THEIR "PROMISED LAND."

BUT MOSES COULD NOT GO INTO THE PROMISED LAND BECAUSE HE HAD DISOBEYED GOD IN THE DESERT MANY YEARS AFTER THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL LEFT EGYPT.

WHEN MOSES WAS LEADING THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL THROUGH THE DESERT, THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY WATER. THE PEOPLE ALL STARTED COMPLAINING TO MOSES BECAUSE THEY WERE THIRSTY.

THE PEOPLE ASKED MOSES, "WHY DID YOU

BRING US OUT HERE IN THE WILDERNESS TO DIE? THE FOOD HERE IS NOT AS GOOD AS THE FOOD IN EGYPT, AND THERE'S NOT EVEN ANY WATER TO DRINK."

MOSES AND AARON WENT TO THE TABERNACLE TO TALK TO GOD ABOUT THE PROBLEM. THE LORD TOLD MOSES TO TAKE THE ROD AND HAVE A MEETING WITH THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL. GOD TOLD MOSES JUST TO TALK TO A BIG ROCK AND WATER WOULD COME OUT—ENOUGH WATER FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AND THEIR ANIMALS.

MOSES AND AARON LEFT THE TABERNACLE AND GATHERED ALL THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL TOGETHER FOR THE MEETING.

MOSES WAS ANGRY AT THE PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY HAD COMPLAINED SO MUCH. MOSES LIFTED UP THE ROD AND HIT THE ROCK TWICE