

# Numbers

## LEADERS LESSON OVERVIEW—Lesson 3



### FOR THE LEADER

In this lesson, we will learn what it means to make a promise and why we should keep it.

#### KEY POINT

We must keep our promises.

#### KEY VERSE

“When a man makes a vow to the LORD or takes an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must not break his word but must do everything he said.” **Numbers 30:2**

*Note: Boys are not required to memorize the Key Point or Key Verse to receive completion credit for this lesson.*

For information on how to use Bible merits in a Royal Rangers meeting, refer to the TRaCclub Support section or the *Royal Rangers Leader Manual*.

#### REFLECT ANSWERS

These answers match the questions in the Reflect section of the boys’ sheet.

- Saul wanted to destroy the Philistines. His fighting men grew weak and that limited the damage they were able to do to the Philistines.
- God expects us to do so.
- God expects us to do what we say.



### MATERIALS & PREP

Prepare a copy of the Student Handout for each boy.

Read the lesson in advance, taking note of the main points. Be prepared to present the lesson to your group, but avoid reading it word for word. Include discussion with the group to make it more enjoyable for everyone.

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CATEGORY

Christlike Manhood

TITLE

Integrity

REFERENCE

Numbers 30:1-2

• orange merit •

# Numbers

STUDENT HANDOUT—Lesson 3



## KEY THOUGHTS

### KEY POINT

We must keep our promises.

### KEY VERSE

“When a man makes a vow to the LORD or takes an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must not break his word but must do everything he said.” **Numbers 30:2**



## READ

Moses said to the heads of the tribes of Israel: “This is what the LORD commands: When a man makes a vow to the LORD or takes an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must not break his word but must do everything he said.” **Numbers 30:1-2**

Our words are important. When we say we will do something, we are making a vow. This is true even if we don’t say, “I promise.” The Bible doesn’t have any exceptions for crossing our fingers behind our backs or saying “I was joking.” Our words are binding for us.

Sometimes when we are angry or emotional, we may say things that we don’t really mean. God holds us accountable to do what we say we will do. Because of this, we should choose our words wisely.

First Samuel 14 tells about a time King Saul spoke rashly. A massive Philistine army had poured into Israel. The situation didn’t look good for Saul and the Israelites. But that suddenly changed.

Saul’s son Jonathan took his armor bearer and attacked an enemy outpost. Then, God made the Philistines scared and confused. They began fighting themselves. Saul ordered his army to attack. He was so intent on destroying the Philistines that he did not want his men to stop to eat. He said anyone who ate that day would be cursed. So the soldiers didn’t eat, and because of that they grew weak.

Saul’s words had consequences. His army could have won an even greater victory if the soldiers had not become tired. Saul’s careless words kept him from getting more of what he really wanted.

God keeps His promises. He expects us to keep our promises too. We are to be God’s representatives in the world. That means we must act like God would act.



## REFLECT

As a group, discuss the following questions.

- Why did Saul tell his men not eat and what were the consequences?
- Why is it important for us to do what we say?
- Why should we use our words carefully?

Review the Key Point and the Key Verse.

**PRAYER:** Dear God, thank You that You always keep Your promises. Help me to be like You and do everything I say. Amen.



## RESPOND

Challenge the boys to keep a log for a day of everything they say they will do. Encourage them to watch their words carefully throughout the day. Talk next time about whether it was easy or hard, and whether they did everything they said they would.

Remember to read your Bible this week using the Bible reading plan of your choice. A recommended plan can be found in the Bible Reading merit or online at [RoyalRangers.com](http://RoyalRangers.com). Review this lesson with a friend or parent as a way to help you remember it.

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