

THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE



## Contending for Contentment

**Ice Breaker:** School's out for the Summer!! Who was your favorite teacher? Why did you love them?

**Read Together:** Numbers 10:11-13 (ESV), Numbers 10:33,34 (ESV), Numbers 11:1-3 (ESV), Numbers 11: 4-6 (NLT), Exodus 15:24 (NIV), Numbers 11:11-12 (NLT), Numbers 11:12-15 (NLT), Numbers 11:16-17 (NLT), Numbers 11:18-20 (NLT)

**Discuss:**

- Who started the complaining?
- How susceptible are you to complaining? (Does it influence you? Do you start it?)
- Who did Moses blame for treating him harshly?
- Who was actually treating Moses harshly?
- Have you ever questioned God for answering one of your prayers or giving you a calling you didn't want?
- God provided help for Moses through the 70 elders he raised up! How has God provided help for you when you cried out to Him?

**Read Together:** Numbers 11:21-22 (NLT), Numbers 11:23 (NLT), Numbers 11:31-34 (NLT), Matthew 12:34 (NLT), Matthew 12:34 (ESV),

**Discuss:**

- Moses was calculating the lack he had instead of listening to the God of the Universe promising to provide. In what areas do you calculate your lack?
- God challenges Moses a bit sarcastically. "Have I lost my power?"
- What does complaining reveal?
  - The lack of trust that God is actually in control leading you to His best for you.
- What does complaining effect?
  - Complaining poisons the wells that are in your life to bless you.

**Read Together:** Ephesians 4:29 (ESV), Hebrews 13:17 (ESV)

- Who does complaining impact the most?
  - Servant leaders God has placed in your life to serve you.
- Whom do you think you have affected with complaint?
- Do you trust your leadership?
- Ask yourself, “Are your leaders FOR you or AGAINST you?”
- What does God want you to do?

**Consider:**

If you do not trust your leadership, take some time to ask God “why?” There could be a wound that causes you to be skeptical. Ask God how you can get healing in that area.

If you are under toxic leadership, ask God how to be honoring to Him while getting out of the unhealthy environment. Also ask Him to show you how HE sees your leader(s).

Finding yourself in a place of mistrust is hard. Ask God for discernment to determine if the environment is for your growth, or if it is harmful. He is FOR you, so He WILL show you what to do.

God does not approve of abuse. However, sometimes hard circumstances can shape us into healthier people. Ask Him for clarity on your discomfort. Make sure you are not despising discomfort that He is using for your good. Pray for discernment and grace to navigate the waters.

Choose gratefulness! Studies have shown that healthy cells in your brain increase when we are grateful for what we have. Take some time to thank God for all the good things in your life. Present your requests to God while choosing the attitude of thanksgiving. Take note of how much better you feel after you are intentionally grateful!