TRIALS AND TESTS

Exodus 15-16

The people grumbled and Moses prayed.

THREE WAYS COMPLAINING IS SPIRITUALLY DANGEROUS:

- 1. You forget God when you complain.
- 2. Complaining can create in you an evil heart.
- 3. Complaining destroys your witness.

God tests you to reveal your character AND His.

God gives grace even to grumblers.

THREE WAYS TO COMBAT COMPLAINING:

- 1. REMEMBER the God who leads you.
- 2. TRUST in God's leading.
- 3. WAKE UP and see God's faithfulness.

Group Discussion Guide

- What have you complained about the most recently?
- Can you describe a time when God has been faithful to you?
- How have you seen the "3 dangers of complaining" play out in someone's life?
- Which of the three ways of combating complaining is most meaningful to you? Why?

Morning Prayers of Faithfulness

(Read one each morning this week)

Psalm 103

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, 3 who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, 5 who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 37

- 4 Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. 7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!
- 23 The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; 24 though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand. 25 I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread. 26 He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing.
- **39** The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble. **40** The Lord helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

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