

WILDERNESS WORK

Grumbling to Gratitude

**When the
journey is hard,
we can learn to
be thankful.**

SERIES SUMMARY

Wilderness Work is a journey through Numbers 11–14, where Israel's wilderness wanderings reveal not just external challenges, but internal battles of the heart. In the quiet, desolate places—what Scripture calls the *erēmos*—God exposes the attitudes that hold us back: complaining, criticism, doubt, and rebellion. Yet in the very same wilderness, He invites us to deeper transformation.

This series will explore how God wants to do sacred work within us, leading us from grumbling to gratitude, from cynicism to love, from fear to faith, and from rebellion to submission.

ICEBREAKER

If you had to pick a food to eat everyday, what would you pick?

SCRIPTURE

Read about a Christlike attitude in:
Philippians 2:1-18



LEARNING FROM HIS STORY

1. Why is it that pride leads to grumbling, and humility to gratitude?
2. From today's reading, what kinds of things do you imagine Paul focused on to keep such a grateful spirit while imprisoned?
3. Why do you believe our doing "all things without grumbling" (14) leads to our shining "as lights in the world" (15)?

EXAMINING OUR OWN STORY

4. What situations tend to trigger the most grumbling in you?
5. When do you tend to be the most grateful?
6. Who are you most likely to grumble to? And what do you imagine would happen if you replaced it with gratitude in that relationship?

WRITING A NEW STORY

7. What are some strategies in which we can partner with the Holy Spirit to grumble less?
8. What do you do (or have you done in the past) to cultivate and practice gratitude?
9. How could this lesson transform your workplace (or wherever you do everyday life)?

TAKING TIME TO PRAY

Lord, forgive us for our false sense of entitlement and all-too-frequent grumbling. Form in us grateful hearts, so we can shine as lights for you. Amen.

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