

GROWTH GROUP STUDY

REFLECT

1. *What do you complain about the most? Circle your top three grumbings.*

- Gas prices
- Schoolwork
- Work/coworkers
- A busy schedule
- Money
- Extended family
- Taxes
- Your body (fitness, sickness)
- Church/pastors
- Politicians
- A messy house
- Other _____

2. *What are some excuses we make to soften the sinfulness of grumbling? Why do we minimize the danger of grumbling?*

WEEK 9

ENCOUNTER

“Do all things without grumbling.” God takes our attitudes seriously. Really seriously. 1 Corinthians 10:10-11 says, do not “grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.” God takes attitudes so seriously that an entire generation was barred from entering the Promised Land. We have a chance to learn from their sin because 1 Corinthians goes on to say, “Now these things happened to them as an example.” Look at the example of the Israelites in the wilderness in Numbers 14 and think about the character of God and the sin of grumbling. If you like to mark in your Bible you may also want to note all the occurrences of the word grumble.

3. *What were the people grumbling about? How had God already provided for them? (Note: this isn't the first time the people complained. You could also read Exodus 15:24; 16:2-12, 17:3; Numbers 11:1, 16:11, 41, and 17:5 for some other examples).*

4. *Below the surface of the Israelites' grumbling was a wrong view of God. The fruit of complaining was nourished by the root of their theology. What did their grumbling reveal about their view of God?*

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5. *Contrast the Israelites' attitude with the perspective of Joshua and Caleb in verses 5-10.*

6. *What was God's response to the people of Israel?*

7. *Moses appeals to God's character in verses 13-19. What attributes does he emphasize? How is God just to punish people for sins as seemingly small as a bad attitude?*

TRANSFORM

8. *What does your grumbling reveal about your view of God? Try rephrasing your common complaints into honest statements of theology about God. For example the fruit of grumbling about taxes may be nourished by the bad root of believing God is not just. Complete the sentence "God is not_____."*

9. *What is the right view of God that you need? How can that change your perspective and attitude? What attribute of God do you need to remember the most in light of your complaining?*

10. *What did you need to hear the most from this week's sermon?*

FOR FURTHER STUDY

1 Corinthians 10:6-13, 1 Peter 4:9.

Lord Change My Attitude (Before It's Too Late) by James MacDonald