

Wednesday Night Bible Study Notes October 8, 2025 Franklinton Baptist Church
(rchildress)

Grumbling, Greed, and Grace

Exodus 15:22–27; Exodus 16:1–20

Theme

God shapes His servant not only through deliverance but through development. Moses, once shaped, becomes a tool for shaping others. In this passage, God tests His people—not to condemn, but to reveal, refine, and prepare.

Two Tests from God

Will you trust Me? (Exodus 15:25; 16:4)

Will you obey Me? (Exodus 15:26)

These tests are not about salvation; they've already crossed the Red Sea. These are tests of spiritual maturity and readiness for service.

Key Insights

1. Grumbling Reveals Immaturity

The Israelites forget God's past provision (Red Sea) and grumble at Marah.

Bitterness isn't just in the water, it's in them.

Like us, they confuse need with greed, and forget that deliverance leads to service, not entitlement.

2. Obedience Precedes Understanding

Moses obeys God's strange command with the wood—not because he understands, but because he trusts.

Obedience delayed by "why" is often obedience denied.

3. God's Grace Meets Grumbling

Even in their complaints, God provides sweet water, meat, and bread.

Grace doesn't mean God approves of our grumbling—it means He's kind enough to keep shaping us anyway.

From Bitter Waters to Palm Springs

Marah (bitterness)/Elim (abundance)

God moves us from testing to provision, but not without revealing what's inside us first.

Principles for Today

During times of testing:

1. Remember what God did yesterday.

Gratitude anchors us in God's faithfulness.

2. Trust what God will do tomorrow.

Obedience opens the door to provision and transformation.

3. Just worship who God is today!

What we need to do is be responsive to God.