

Group Reflection Questions

1. What is the difference in outcome between those who listen to God and those who don't?
2. Is there a time when you've gotten exactly what you wanted and you were still disappointed?
3. What are some ways in which people get their wants and their needs confused?
4. How do you keep grumbling and complaining in check in your life?
5. How are you growing in making God's opinions your opinions?

The Complaint Department

Exodus 16

Have you ever received a phone call from a car dealer after buying a car? “Just checking in,” they might say. This has been a practice of several car dealers because they've found that once people make that purchase of tens of thousands of dollars, they can regret their decision. So the car dealer wants to make sure the buyer is happy.

In our passage, the Israelites have made it out of Egypt, but they're wondering if they've made the right decision. So they complain to Moses and Aaron. “It would have been better for us to stay in Egypt.” Have you ever gotten exactly what you wanted, and you still weren't happy? This is part of our learning process as God transforms us into His people. We can want a lot of different things. We can even think—I really *need* this or that. God knows what we need, but there can be a difference in opinion between God and us. Growth in Christlikeness means my opinion of what I *need* begins losing and God's opinion starts winning. As we read this passage it is amazing to follow the different outcomes between the people who follow God's opinion (command) and those who don't.