

In the Desert but Not Deserted

“When a Care Becomes a Complaint”

1 Corinthians 10:9; Numbers 21:4-9

Presented by
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October 11, 2020

- Test (“to tempt,” “to try”) = To push the boundaries/limits of God’s grace and mercy through rebellion

HOW DID THE ISRAELITES TEST THE LORD?

- They were impatient with His timing. (Numbers 21:4)
- They questioned His plan. (Numbers 21:5)
- They complained about His provision. (Numbers 21:6)
 - What we are really saying is, “Lord, I don’t trust you.”
 - A care becomes a complaint when it stops short of Christ.

THREE WAYS TO AVOID COMPLAINING

- Focus on the journey with Him rather than a destination without Him. (Psalm 23:1-4a)
- Approach uncertainty with anticipation. (Proverbs 16:4a)
- Thank Him daily for His abundant provision. (Psalm 13:6)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what areas of your life have you been complaining more than trusting God during this season?
2. What evidence is there that God can be trusted in this season?
3. Who is someone that you could encourage with this passage this week?