



Part 7: But It's Not What I Wanted

Pastor Grant Fishbook
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So far, on the road out, God has provided...

- A plan for freedom
- A way out
- A way through

A Momentary Relapse

In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the LORD's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death." – *Exodus 16:2-3*

But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?" – *Exodus 17:3*

But God has a plan...

- A plan for provision

Bread: Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. – *Exodus 16:4*

Meat: That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. – *Exodus 16:13-14*

Water: I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. – *Exodus 17:6*

**God's people responded to his provision
with endless fits of whining and complaining.**

(Continues on back)

The Right Response to God's Provision

Trust (*Philippians 4:19*)

Gratitude (*Psalms 118:1*)

Stewardship (*Malachi 3:10*)

Generosity (*2 Corinthians 9:6-9*)

God will not hold you accountable for how much you have done, but for how much you have done that he asked you to do.

• A plan for protection

As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword. – *Exodus 17:11-13*

Next Steps

FINAL WEEKEND - Donate to Project Homeless Connect

You can share God's provision with someone less fortunate by donating new or unused clothing and survival gear to Project Homeless Connect. Details in today's program.

Donate to the CTK or Ferndale Food Bank

You can help fight hunger in Whatcom County by donating canned or dry food items to the CTK Food Bank at our Bellingham campus or the Ferndale Food Bank at our Ferndale campus. Detail's in today's program.

Small Group Questions



- 1) What is your biggest pet peeve? (Mine is people in the express lane with more than 12 items!)
- 2) Is there an area of your life that you frequently complain about? (job, friends, family strife, money issues?) Has the grumbling ever been effective?
- 3) The Israelites wanted freedom based on comfort rather than calling. How much comfort would you be willing to sacrifice to go where God has called you?
- 4) Read the verses listed under "Our response to God's provision". In which of the four areas are you most likely to fall short when it comes to obedience?
- 5) How can you live out a proper response to God's provision this week?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?