

Read Numbers 11:1-30. We join Israel as they leave the comfortable stillness of camp and begin the uncomfortable journey toward the land God has promised. The wilderness was never the destination, however, it was the road to something better, and the Israelites began to lose sight of this. Getting to the better land meant leaving behind what was familiar, and so, right off the bat we see a connection to our life under the New Covenant. The journey of life in Christ means leaving behind an old way of living, even when that old life feels comfortable simply because we know it. Those in Christ have the indwelling of Holy Spirit to renew their hearts and minds, teaching them to trust the Lord through uncomfortable circumstances. The work of transformation can be uncomfortable, but what lies ahead with God is infinitely better than what we left behind.

Every morning, Israel had evidence of God's loving care. The manna came faithfully each day. The wilderness was difficult, yes, but God never abandoned His people in it. His miraculous provision was what sustained them through the journey. Yet our reading shows how easily gratitude can give way to dissatisfaction. They began longing for the food they had left behind, forgetting that that was the food of slavery. Sometimes our greatest spiritual danger is not that God stops providing, but that we become so familiar with His provision that we stop recognizing it as grace.

Even Moses reached his limit. The complaints of the people became too heavy for him, and he began looking at the size of the responsibility rather than the greatness of God. He essentially said, "I cannot carry all these people by myself." And he was right. But he was never supposed to carry the burden alone. God responded not by demanding that Moses somehow become stronger, but by sharing the burden and supplying His Spirit. The lesson is deeply relevant for anyone who carries responsibility for others. Parents, teachers, supervisors, elders,... anyone who becomes a strong shoulder for someone else can eventually reach the end of their own wisdom, patience, and strength. That is not necessarily failure. It may just be the moment we finally remember that God's supply is not limited. We don't have to be enough. God is enough!

Prayerfully consider the following this week: Where in your life are you being asked to leave behind something familiar so that God can lead you toward something better? Where have you become so accustomed to God's daily provision that you have begun to complain about what He has given rather than thank Him for it? What responsibility or burden are you carrying today that you have been trying to handle in your own strength? What might it look like to depend more fully on the wisdom, patience, and power of God?

Weekly Memory Verse:

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Is the Lord's power too little?
Now you shall see whether My word will come true for you or not."
Numbers 11:23

Weekly Affirmation:

**THE WORK IS MINE,
BUT THE STRENGTH
IS HIS!**

SEPTEMBER 2026 GROWTH GOALS

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| ☐ Read the Book of Numbers | ☐ Memorize one of the weekly memory verses. |
| ☐ Watch the Bible Project video on Numbers
(available on the website). | ☐ Consider removing a daily comfort or luxury this month, using its absence to focus on your relationship with God. |