

Bible Study: Encouragement, Unity, and Trusting in God's Provision

Theme: Based on Numbers 11 and the sermon *The Light of His Love*

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the opportunity to gather together and study Your Word. Open our hearts to receive Your truth, challenge us to grow in faith, and inspire us to encourage one another in love. May Your Spirit guide our discussion and draw us closer to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Part 1: Reflecting on Numbers 11 – The Danger of Grumbling

Read: Numbers 11:4–6, 11–15

Discussion Questions:

1. Grumbling and Perspective

- What led the Israelites to grumble in the wilderness?
- How did their complaints distort their perception of God's provision and blessings?
- Can you think of a time when focusing on what you lacked made you lose sight of God's blessings?

2. The Impact of the "Rabble"

- Who were the "rabble," and what role did they play in the Israelites' discontent?
- How do outside influences today impact our attitudes toward faith and gratitude?

3. The Burden of Leadership

- How did the Israelites' complaints affect Moses?
 - Why is it important for leaders to feel encouraged and supported?
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Part 2: Encouragement in Action – Building Each Other Up

Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:8–11 and Hebrews 3:13

Discussion Questions:

1. Encouragement as a Safeguard

- What does Hebrews 3:13 teach us about the importance of encouragement in the life of faith?
- How can encouragement protect us from the "sin's deceitfulness" mentioned in the passage?

2. A Call to Build Each Other Up

- What practical steps can we take to live out Paul's instruction to "encourage one another and build each other up"?
- Share an example of a time when someone's encouragement strengthened your faith or helped you persevere.

Part 3: Living with Gratitude and Trust

Reflect on: The story of James and the church member with failing health but unshakable faith.

Discussion Questions:

1. Faith and Perspective

- How does faith in God help us maintain perspective during times of difficulty or uncertainty?
- How does gratitude shift our focus from what we lack to what we have in Christ?

2. Encouragement in Community

- Why is it essential for a worshipping community to be marked by encouragement?
- What role can you play in creating a culture of gratitude and encouragement in your church or community?

Activity: Who Needs Encouragement Today?

Take a moment to pray and ask God to reveal someone in your life who needs encouragement.

- Write a note, send a message, or make a plan to speak with them this week.
- Share with the group how you've seen God use words of encouragement to make a difference.

Closing Prayer

Lord, thank You for being our provider and sustainer. Forgive us when we grumble or lose sight of Your blessings. Help us to be a community that encourages, uplifts, and reminds one another of Your faithfulness. Guide us to trust You in all things and to reflect Your love in every aspect of our lives. Amen.