

Covenant Life

- Our next prayer meeting is a week from today on Sunday August 11th at 3pm. We will not have Children's ministry nor a Formation I teaching but will hear about Camp Jesus 2024 during the middle of our meeting. There will also be a meeting for parents interested in restarting Youth and Jr. High ministries during the same time.
- GodsDelight.org has prayer meeting [audio](#), [summaries](#), [transcripts](#), and [teachings](#).
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online [here](#) or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, TX 75222.

Reflection

First let me thank everyone for the prayers for the Community's special intention. Progress was made in God bringing about His perfect will, so please keep praying. I would also like to thank all those that prayed for the Coordinator's Day of Prayer yesterday. It was a powerful time before the Lord, and we hope to share highlights soon. A gift that we heard the Lord remind us about was the gift of Joy and being His Delight. This came to mind as I was reflecting on the readings today.

The [First Reading](#) opens with the line "*The whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron*". I couldn't get past the word grumbled. To grumble is not just to complain but to complain in an annoyed way. Here are a people whom God rescued from slavery and sovereignly revealed Himself to in the crossing of the Red Sea, yet they lacked faith that God was still looking out for them.

While complaining likely comes very naturally to most of us, I suspect that the Lord is asking us today to look beyond our current circumstances and focus our whole attention on Him. The Israelites have every reason to know that God loved them, cared for them, and was providing for them. He was actively revealing Himself to them and training them to be His people. However, they were slow to learn and not only complained about their plight but did so in a manner that prompted the writer to use the word grumble. So, they were annoyed at their leaders and God for their lack of food.

Might we see ourselves in the lives of the Israelites? How often do we take our eyes off God's love and providence and complain? Do we ever complain with an annoying tone or words?

This is the power of God's eternal Word. It is not only a recording of how God has revealed Himself over time but, through the power of the Holy Spirit, can be a very specific word for us today.

Like the Israelites, God has revealed Himself to us, He has manifested His love, power, and calling out to us in so many ways. He is testing us just as He tested the Israelites. He is training us to not look at the circumstances and predicaments that we find ourselves in but to totally surrender to Him.

"I do believe, help my unbelief!"

"O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!"

These are easy words to say but we will likely spend the rest of our lives praying them over and over.

Of course, as we read further, God does sovereignly provide for the Israelites and of course we can look back on each of our lives and see how God has sovereignly provided for us...but in the moment...when we are dealing with the trials and tribulations of life...it can be hard to trust.

My exhortation today is to reclaim our joy. To recommit to being His Delight! In the face of whatever might be troubling us, recall that He called us into a covenant relationship with Him, that He promised to be our God and called us to be His people. He loves us more than we can ever imagine. He wants better for us than we want for ourselves. So, when tempted to complain, recall how He has loved us, cared for us, provided for us, and send the evil one packing. We are children of the King and have confident assurance that He will never leave us or forsake us! We are forever joyful to be His Delight!

Let us pray, "Heavenly Father, I thank You for calling me into a personal relationship with You. Regardless of the past, I pledge to focus my whole attention on You and on Your providential love for me. I have confidence in You and express my trust in You. I express my joy at being Your Delight. I delight in You and in the sisters and brothers You have called me into relationship with. I love You Lord. Amen"

God Bless,

David