

Land of Thankfulness

Psalm 77

09/27/2020

The Land Between can become either a Land of Grumbling or a Land of Gratitude...the choice is ours.

- I. We can choose to respond with grumbling
 - A. The Israelites grumbled about the bitter water three days after crossing the Red Sea and watching God destroy the entire Egyptian army. (Exodus 15:22-25)
 - B. The Israelites grumbled about the lack of food 45 days after leaving Egypt having seen God's power in the 10 plagues that decimated that country. (Exodus 16:1-3)
 - C. The Israelites grumbled about the lack of water after eating manna and quail in abundance (Exodus 17:1-3)
 - D. The Israelites grumbled about their struggles (Numbers 11:1-3)
 - E. The Israelites grumbled about the manna (Numbers 11:4-6)
 - F. The Israelites grumbled at the border of the Promised Land because of the opinion of the 10 cowardly spies. (Numbers 14:1-4)
 - G. The Israelites grumbled about what happened to Korah, Dathan and Abiram when God judged their rebellion. (Numbers 16:41)
- II. We can choose to respond with gratitude
 - A. Because God is always good
 1. Things could be worse
 2. Things may get worse
 - B. Because God is always close
 - C. Because God is always working
 - D. Because God is always teaching

So What?

If we choose gratitude over grumbling, we will find that...

- Time in the Land Between is not wasted time if we submit to what God wants to do for us.
 - He may be wanting to steer us in a different direction
 - He may be wanting to show us a delightful opportunity
 - He may be wanting to strengthen our determination muscles
- Time in the Land Between is not wasted time if we submit to what God wants to do in us.
 - Personal growth upward when things are crashing downward.
 - Richer faith despite the disappointment, confusion, and pain.
- Time in the Land Between is not wasted time if we submit to what God wants to do through us.
 - Will our story be the last straw that brings the camel back?
 - Will our experience encourage someone in the same boat?