

**Materials I Need:**

**Legend:**



= Option 1, Appropriate for 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



= Option 2, Appropriate for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Memory Work:**

“But because My servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows Me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.” Numbers 14:24

**Aim Questions:**

1. What did the Israelites complain about in Kadesh? How did God respond to their complaints?
2. What issue did Miriam and Aaron raise against Moses? What was God's answer to their objections?
3. How many spies were sent into the Promised Land? What was their mission?
4. When the spies returned, what kind of report did the majority of them give? Why do you think they gave that kind of report?
5. Why do you think only Caleb and Joshua gave a good report?
6. What are some ways in which you can apply this passage to your own life this week?



**Hook:**




**Our Common Complaints (Table Activity).** What things do we typically complain about? Ask the kids to make a list of those things they complain most about. Share these with each other and see how many are duplicates. When we grumble or complain, it is a reflection of a heart that lacks trust in God. When we complain, we are saying that we don't like the circumstances in which God has placed us. In this morning's Bible Adventure, we will see how God's people grumble about God's provisions for them and how God responds to their grumbling. How does God feel when we grumble?




**Favoritism (Class Activity).** Once the children have arrived, select a couple of kids to receive special treatment. This position of privilege should be very obvious to all the other kids. It could be a special privilege or an additional treat of some sort. As jealousy develops among the other kids (could even be fueled by one of the teachers), talk about their feelings. Talk about how God views jealousy. We will hear how God responded to the jealousy of two of Israel's most respected people when they became jealous of Moses.



**No Limits Creates Greed (Table or Group Activity).** As you complete the discussion on grumbling, dump a pile of candy out in the center of the table or room. Allow the children to gather pieces freely without any limits. Watch to see attitudes of selfishness or greed. How many pieces do each of the children take? Do they take more than they can carry? What would happen if bags of candies continued to be delivered every hour and were dumped out for their free taking? What if the kids were allowed to eat as much of the candy as they wanted? We will hear about the greed of the Israelites and what God thought of how they responded to His provision.

 **Take Away and Remember Tray (Table Activity).** Bring in a cookie sheet or tray with many different items on it. Allow the kids one minute to look at the tray and try to remember everything on it. Then take away the tray and ask them to write down as many items as they can remember. Now try a variation of this by removing one of the items and see if the students can guess which one was removed. Everyone's ability to look and remember differs. One student may remember something that another student does not. Moses sent twelve spies out to look things over before the Israelites proceeded into the Promised Land. These twelve men each saw things a little differently and remembered different things in different ways.






 **Spy Out the Land (Classroom Activity).** Set up a scene, or bring in a detailed picture or painting, and position this in a corner of the classroom. At different times during the Hook time, allow the individual students or table groups to go and "spy out the land." Give them a half sheet of paper with some open ended questions and some blank spaces for general observations. This should provoke different answers based on each child's perception of what they are looking at. Review these answers during the Took time and use this time to discuss why sometimes our perceptions of what we see may be different from others.

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### Book:

#### Presentation Ideas –

-  **Quail from the Lord (Illustration/Coloring Page).** Numbers 11:18-35, **1NUM02.GF1.**
-  **Miriam's Leprosy (Illustration/Coloring Page).** Numbers 12:1-16, **1NUM02.GF2.**
-  **Spies Return with Bounty (Illustration/Coloring Page).** Numbers 13:26-33, **1NUM02.GF3.**
-  **Manna (Snack).** Bring in an assortment of snacks--some tasty and some the students won't like. See how many complaints you get.
-  **Mega Grapes (Demonstration/Skit).** Blow up purple balloons and string them over a broom handle like a cluster of grapes. Have two teachers carry balloons into the classroom talking about what had happened to them.

#### Bible Adventure –

God's people were now on the move to the land God had promised them. They had built the Tabernacle exactly the way He had told them to. They had listened carefully to all the laws God had given them to keep themselves holy and to worship Him. They had gotten themselves ready to travel to where God would lead them. Everything seemed to be going well for the Israelites, but something happened as they went on their journey. They began to complain, and God heard it.

The sinning, complaining people made God angry. He sent His holy fire, and some of the complainers who were camped at the edges of the Israelites' camp died. Moses prayed to the Lord that He might take away the fire, and God did. The complaining didn't stop for long though. Some of the non-Israelites who had left Egypt with the Israelites began to want different food from the manna God gave them every day. Soon the Israelites wanted the food of Egypt, too. They forgot they were slaves there. All they could think about was the food they enjoyed there--the meat and fish. "All we get is this manna," they said.

Moses heard the people whining about the food situation. God heard it too, and they were both displeased. In fact, Moses was so discouraged that he wanted God to kill him. He was tired of trying to lead people who did not want to go God's way. God understood how Moses felt, and He told Moses to choose 70 good men from among the Israelites who could help him lead the people. God gave these 70 men the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit so they could take some of the responsibility from Moses.

Then God showed His amazing patience with His complaining people. Instead of destroying them for their sin and bad attitudes, He gave them what they wanted. With a strong wind He caused small birds called quail to fly into the area of the camp. The Israelites caught them and acted like spoiled children in a candy store. They kept grabbing more and more quail and stuffed the meat into their mouths. When God saw how they were acting, He was angry at their greed and at their unwillingness to be satisfied with the food He had been giving them. He allowed some of them to become very ill and even die.

The complaining problem among the Israelites kept growing worse, and even reached the hearts of Moses' own family. Moses had married an Ethiopian woman after the death of his first wife, Zipporah. There was nothing wrong with this, but Aaron and Miriam used it as an excuse to question Moses' leadership. They made proud claims that God had not spoken through Moses only, but through the two of them as well. God heard what they were saying and called Moses, Aaron and Miriam to the Tabernacle. The Bible tells us that Moses was more humble than any man living at that time. Listen to what God said to Aaron and Miriam:

"He (Moses) is faithful in all My house.

With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles;  
he sees the form of the Lord.

Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"

Wouldn't it be incredible to have God defend you that same way? God said Moses was humble, he was faithful, and he was righteous. God will show favor to those who seek Him (Ezra 8:22). He is righteous, and will defend and protect those who are righteous. If we want to see God's power and protection in our own lives, then we need to live holy and righteous. Because of their attack on Moses, Miriam became a leper and had to leave the camp for seven days. She and Aaron had publicly challenged Moses's leadership, so her punishment was public as well.

The Israelites camped in Kadesh-Barnea. While they were there, God commanded them to send twelve spies into the land of Canaan to spy it out. They were to go up into the mountains and see what the land was like--how many people, whether the land was good or bad, how hard it would be to fight the people. Moses told the spies to be courageous. They went out for 40 days and spied out the land from border to border, then returned and gave their reports to Moses and the people. It was a good land, they said, but the people already living there were strong, and the cities were too hard to conquer. Caleb, one of the spies sent, quieted the people and told them they should go right away to take the land for themselves because with God's help they could easily do it. All the other spies (except Joshua, Moses' assistant), were frightened and said things to frighten the rest of the Israelites into not wanting to go into the land. They refused to trust in their God who had brought them out of Egypt, had protected them against their enemies, and had tenderly cared for them all through their journey. The people cried and complained against Moses and Aaron, and said they wanted to die in the wilderness. They even talked about choosing another leader and going back to Egypt! Joshua and Caleb spoke to the people and told them to trust in their God. They knew there were dangers and obstacles to overcome, but they also knew the awesome power of God! "Do not rebel against the Lord," they told the people, but the people weren't listening. They wanted to stone Joshua and Caleb.

Have you ever had to stand alone against a crowd of people? It's not easy, is it? Oftentimes, especially in the world we live in today, having confidence and faith in God means going against the world. The world is so opposed to God's way that many times believers need to swim upstream and against the world's way of thinking and doing things. The key to winning is to hold on tightly to the promises of God in His word. That's just what Joshua and Caleb did. God had said He would give them the land, and that was good enough for them. They saw the situation with God's eyes, not man's eyes.

God had been watching His people and had had enough of their rebellion. Ten times the nation of Israel had complained against Him and this was all He was going to put up with. Instead of destroying the people immediately, as they deserved, He decided they would not go to the Promised Land right away. Instead, they would wander in the desert for 40 years! Every person who had refused to go into the land when Joshua and Caleb said they should have would be dead when those 40 years had passed. Only their children, and Joshua and Caleb and their descendants would ever see the Promised Land again.

The Israelites had complained that they would rather die in the wilderness than go into the land. Now, as punishment for their awful sin, they were going to do just that. When Moses spoke to the people about how God saw their rebellion, their unbelief and grumbling, they were sad and promised they would now obey God. But it was too late. God had already made up His mind about these stubborn people. Some

of them, not wanting to accept God's will, went into the Promised Land to try to conquer it, but Moses warned them that God would not be with them. The people who lived in the land attacked them and drove them out. God had changed the timetable for His people to take possession of the land. He would still be faithful to His promise, but it would be a different group of people from this rebellious bunch that He would lead in.

In the eyes of God, unbelief is a very serious thing. Sometimes we are showing we don't believe God when we don't even realize we are doing it. When we grumble and complain, we show that our hearts lack trust and faith in who God is. At the root of all of the sins in our lives, you can find unbelief as the cause. We do things our own way instead of God's way because we're afraid it won't turn out the way we want it to otherwise. We have doubts and fears because we don't believe God is really big enough to handle what comes into our lives. When we complain about anything, we are really saying, "God, I don't like what You're allowing me to go through right now. You must have made a mistake because I don't like this!" Our focus is totally on ourselves, not on our great God; and that focus will take us down the road to trouble. The only way we will ever experience real peace and joy and contentment is to place our trust in God, and in Him alone.

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### Look:



**Spying Out the Land (Craft).** Make binoculars out of a toilet paper roll or a spyglass out of a paper towel roll. Glue the memory verse from **1NUM02.GF4** onto the binoculars or spyglass, and have the students decorate with markers. **Debrief:** Is there anything that makes you afraid? Do you believe that God promises to take care of you in every situation? How did the ten explorers or spies prove that they believed that the Canaanites were stronger than God was? How does our fear show that we think God isn't strong enough to take care of us? Pray now and confess any sin of unbelief.



**Passage Review Questions (Worksheet).** This booklet contains many questions from the Scripture passage covered in today's lesson. Students may work on them in class and complete them during the week at home, **1NUM02.GF5**.



**Memory Verse Exercise (Worksheet).** Have the students try to decipher the message by reading it from bottom to top and from left to right, **1NUM02.GF6**.



**Coriander Seed (Demonstration).** While the Israelites were in the wilderness the Lord fed them with manna. What is manna you ask? Psalms 78:23-25 gives the best picture of what manna is. "Yet He gave a command to the skies above and opened the doors of the heavens; He rained down manna for the people to eat, He gave them the grain of heaven. Men ate the bread of angels; He sent them all the food they could eat." Numbers 11:7 says that the manna was like coriander seed and looked like resin. (*Coriander seed will be available upon request.*) Doesn't sound too good does it? Explain to the students that manna looked like coriander seed but was not coriander seed. Coriander seed does not taste bad though; you might "dare" the kids to try some. It would be interesting to see their reaction. The seeds have a pleasing aroma and a slightly sweet lemony-sage flavor. It is used as a flavoring for sweets. In Europe, the seeds are used for flavoring bread. Coriander is an annual herb which grows in the Jordan valley and in other parts of Palestine. In Exodus 16:31, the people of Israel called the bread manna. It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey. The manna from heaven must have tasted wonderful. Did you know that an omer of manna was placed inside of the Ark of the Covenant in a jar of gold? (Exodus 16:33-34).

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### Took:




**Trusting God Wholeheartedly (Activity and Take-Home Worksheet).** Review the complaint lists the children completed during the Hook time. Instruct students to copy all or a portion of these


complaints onto the spaces provided on **1NUM02.GF7**. Review the memory verse at the top of the page and encourage the students to read and meditate on the Scripture verses provided (one for each day). Encourage them to trust in God this week and view their situations without complaining.

 **How Do You View? (Skit/Class Activity).**

**PART I/Skit.** With the students seated together, have a teacher enter the room as if to teach a lesson. This first teacher complains about everything from the number of kids in the class, the difficulty in teaching multiple age levels, to the lack of supplies, quality of room furnishings, amount of preparation required to teach, etc. The next teacher enters the room, and talking on **exactly** the same things, students, supplies, furnishings, preparation etc., gives an entirely different, and much more positive perspective on these same things. Upon completion, discuss with the kids how these two people could have completely different outlooks on the very same things. Discuss what made Joshua and Caleb's report different from that of the other spies.

**PART II/Activity.** With the students still seated together, divide them in half. Using boxes, screens, or curtains, set up two examples of exactly the same thing. Put these behind a screen or in a box so that the kids cannot see what the other half of the class is looking at. Neither of the groups should know that they are all looking at the same thing. A simple example might be to provide a glass of water which has been filled only halfway. Some may see the glass as half empty and some may see it as half full. They are not allowed to discuss what they see with anyone else. Give the kids a piece of paper to write down what they see. Pass in the papers and reveal to them that they were all looking at exactly the same things. Now read their answers and talk about any difference you find in how they perceived what they saw.

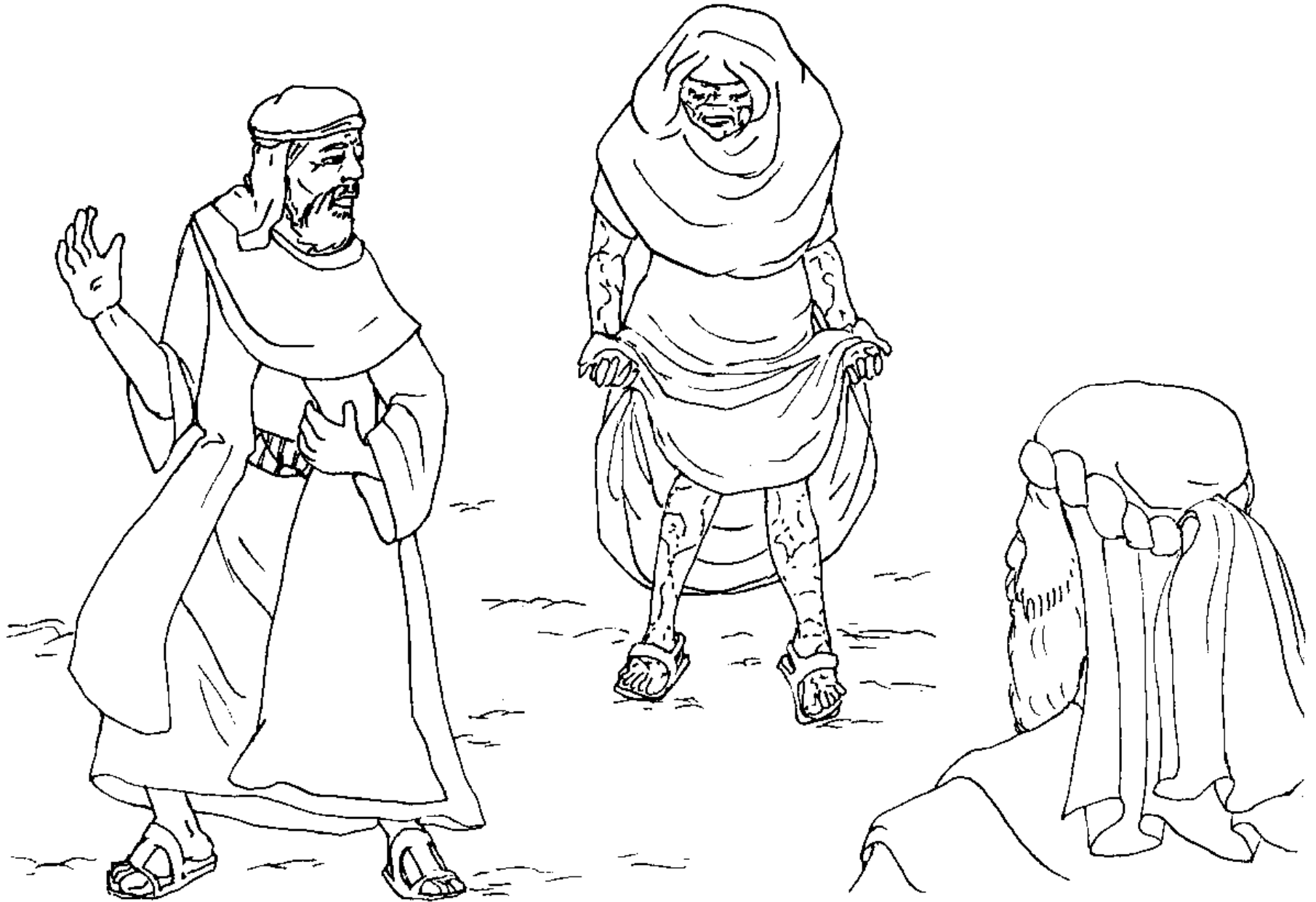
 **A Grape Report (Worksheet).** Moses sent 12 spies into the land God promised to give to the Israelites. When they came back forty days later, they reported what they had seen. Two reports were given. Have students cut out the grapes from **1NUM02.GF8 Pg. 2** and attach them to the grape cluster on **1NUM02.GF8 Pg. 1** that represents the two reports and what happened after the reports were given.

 **Ugly Jar (Craft/Activity).** Do we grumble and have bad attitudes at times? Who sees us most often exhibit these "ugly" moments in our lives? This family activity is a good way to keep us accountable for our words and actions. Each student will need a jar with a lid, a label and instruction sheet from **1NUM02.GF9 Pgs. 1&2**, color crayons, scissors and glue. Each jar lid will need a slit cut into the top of it. Instruct students to color their label and glue it to the outside of the jar. Have them place it on the kitchen counter at home and read the instructions to the entire family. Parents can decide the amount put into the ugly jar for each time an ugly word, action or attitude is displayed. Please order ahead of time if you need help in acquiring jars for your class.

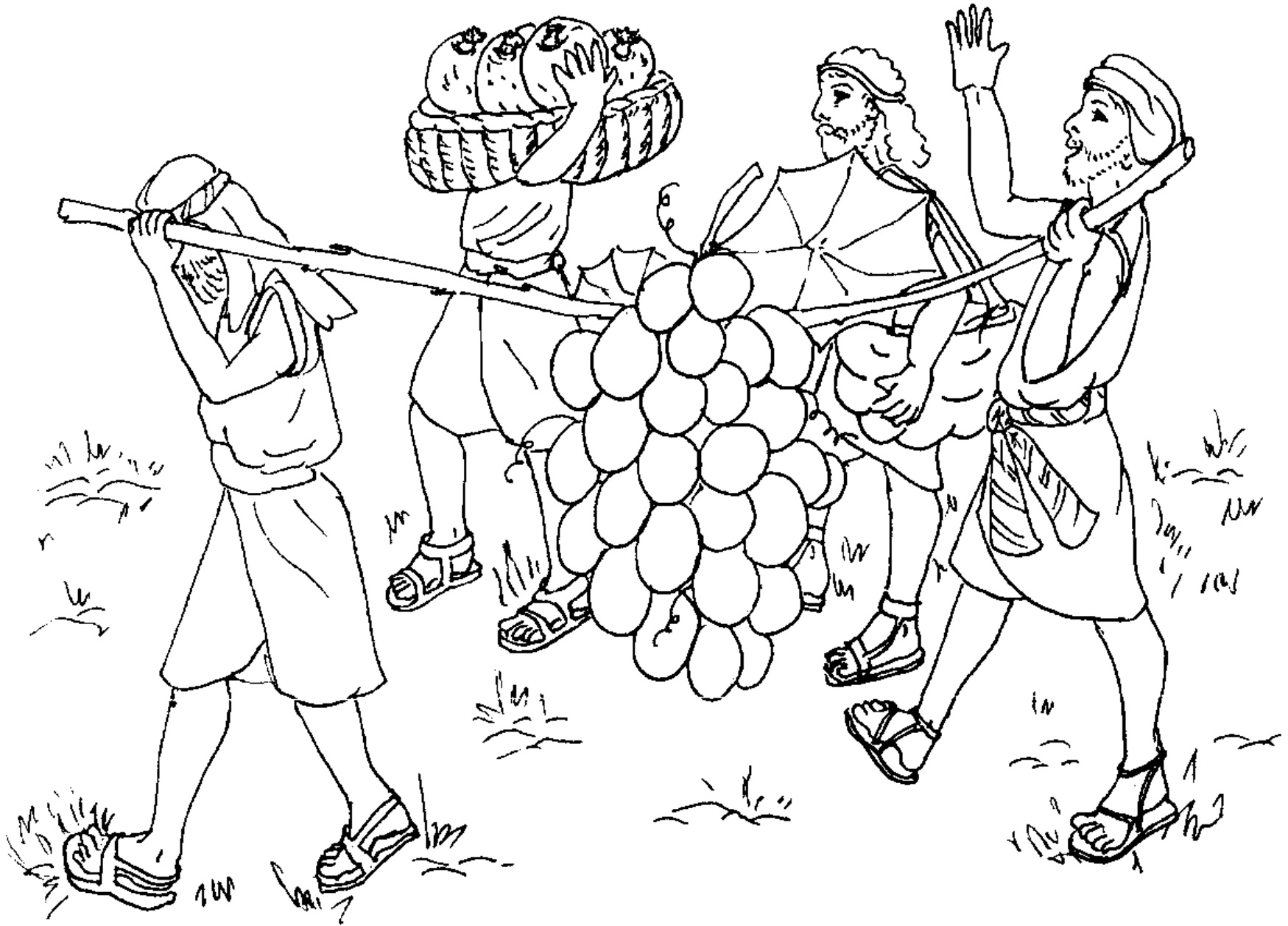
# Quail from the Lord



# Miriam's Leprosy



# Spies Return with Bounty



“But because My servant  
Caleb has a different spirit  
and follows Me  
wholeheartedly, I will bring  
him into the land he went to,  
and his descendants will  
inherit it.”

Numbers 14:24

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Numbers 14:24

47. What happened to the men responsible for spreading the bad report and making the people grumble? 14:36-37

48. Who were the only men to survive? 14:38

49. When Moses told all this to the Israelites, what did they do? 14:39

50. Early the next morning the Israelites went up toward the high hill country (Promised Land). What was their reason? 14:40

51. What was Moses' warning to the people? 14:41-43

52. The Israelites did not listen to Moses and went up to the Promised Land anyway. What happened? 14:44-45

## Passage Review Questions

### Numbers 11 - 14

1. What was the Lord's response when He heard the Israelites complaining? 11:1

2. How strong was the Lord's anger? 11:1

3. While the fire was burning, when did Moses pray to God and what happened? 11:2

4. The rabble in the Israelites' camp began to crave what kind of food? 11:4

5. What were the kinds of foods they had eaten in Egypt? 11:5

6. What food was the Lord providing for the people to eat? 11:6

7. What was the manna like in shape and color? 11:7

8. In what ways could this manna be fixed? How did this manna taste? 11:8

9. When did the Lord send this manna to the Israelites? 11:9

10. What was the trouble with the people when they were wailing? 11:10

11. What were Moses' complaints to God when the people were complaining to him? 11:11-15

**A.** Why did you bring this trouble on me? **B.** What did I do to displease you, that you burden me with these people? **C.** Did I conceive all these people? **D.** Did I give them birth, and why do I carry them in my arms as a nurse to the Promised Land? **E.** They keep wailing "Give us meat to eat!" "Where can I get meat?" **F.** This burden is too heavy for me. If this is how you are going to treat me, put me to death right now, don't let me face my own ruin. **G.** None of the above. **H.** Some of the above. **I.** All of the above.

12. What was the Lord's solution about the burden of the people on Moses? 11:16-17

13. The Lord told Moses to tell the people to prepare for tomorrow by "consecrating" themselves. Why? 11:18

40. What did the whole assembly want to do to the 4 men? 14:10

41. Who appeared at the Tent of Meeting? 14:10

42. Was the Lord angry with the complainers? 14:11

43. What did the Lord want to do to the complainers? 14:11

44. Who intervened for the people, and what was the Lord's reply to this intervening? 14:13-19; 14:20-24,30

45. The Lord told Moses to tell what to the people? 14:25-33

**A.** I will do to you the very things I heard you say. **B.** In this desert your bodies will fall everyone of you 20 years old or more who was counted in the census and who grumbled against me. **C.** Only Caleb and Joshua will enter the land with your children. **D.** Your children will be shepherds here for 40 years suffering for your unfaithfulness until the last of your bodies lies in the desert. **E.** None of the above. **F.** Some of the above. **G.** All of the above.

46. Why 40 years? 14:34

34. Who were the only 2 spies to give a good report?

35. What people lived in the Negev? 13:29

36. How many of the people started to complain, grumble and weep aloud? 14:1-2

37. Did the Israelites also complain about the Lord bringing them to this land? 14:3

38. What did the Israelites want to do? 14:4

39. When the Israelites rebelled and wanted to go back to Egypt, Joshua and Caleb told them that the land they had explored was good. If the Lord was pleased with them, He would lead them into that land and would give it to them. They were not to be afraid of the people there because the Israelites would swallow them up. The enemy's protection was gone, and the Lord was with the Israelites. Where were Moses and Aaron, and what did Joshua and Caleb do before they spoke? 14:5-9

14. How long would the Israelites eat meat? 11:18-19  
A. 1 Day B. 2 Days C. 10 Days D. 20 Days E. 1 Month

Fact File—10 Omers equals 60 Bushels  
1 Omer equals about 2 Quarts

Exodus 16:16 and Numbers 11:32

15. What would happen to the Israelites while they were eating the meat? Why did the Lord do this to the people? 11:20

16. Two men in the camp of the 70 Elders did NOT go to the Tent of Meeting. What were their names? What happened to them when the Spirit rested on them at the same time that it rested on the 68 elders at the Tent of Meeting? 11:26-27

17. Was Moses jealous when the men were prophesying? 11:27-29

18. A wind went out from the Lord to drive the quail into the camp. Where did they come from? 11:31

19. How high above the ground were the quail flying? 11:31

20. How long did it take the people to gather the quail? 11:32

21. What happened while the people were still eating the meat that they were eating like gluttons? 11:33

22. Moses had married a Cushite woman after Zipporah had died. Who started to speak against him? 12:1

23. What was Moses more than anyone on the face of the earth? 12:3

24. The Lord called Moses, Aaron and Miriam out of the Tent of Meeting and summoned Aaron and Miriam to go to Him. After He spoke to them and God left what happened? 12:4-10

25. How long did the Lord let Miriam stay a leper? 12:14-15

26. How many men from each of the 12 tribes were sent out to spy out the land of Canaan? 13:1-16

27. What name did Moses give to one of these spies?

Fact File - The Negev was a dry wasteland stretching southward from Beersheba.

28. What did Moses ask the men to look for? 13:17-20

- A.** See what the land is like. **B.** See if the people were strong or weak, few or many. **C.** Was the land good or bad. **D.** What kind of towns they lived in. **E.** Were the towns unwallled or fortified. **F.** How was the soil, fertile or poor. **G.** Were there trees or not. **H.** Bring back some of the fruit of the land. **I.** None of the above. **J.** Some of the above. **K.** All of the above.

29. When the spies returned, what did they bring back with them? 13:23

30. How long did the spies explore? 13:25

31. What was the true report that the spies gave Moses and Aaron and the Israelite community? 13:26-29

- A.** Showed the fruit of the land. **B.** The people were powerful. **C.** Fortified cities that were very large. **D.** The descendants of Anak live there. **E.** Hittities, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country. **F.** Canaanites near the sea and along the Jordan. **G.** Flows with milk and honey. **H.** None of the above. **I.** Some of the above. **J.** All of the above.

32. When Caleb wanted to go and take possession of the land, what were the other spies' reaction? 13:31

33. What did the spies spread throughout the camp? 13:32

## CAN YOU DECIPHER THE MESSAGE?

(THE HEBREWS READ FROM BOTTOM TO TOP AND FROM RIGHT TO LEFT.)

.TI TIREHNI LLIW STNADNECSED  
SIH DNA ,OT TNEW EH DNAL EHT  
OTNI MIH GNIRB LLIW I  
,YLDETRAEHELOHW EM  
SWOLLOF  
DNA TIRIPS TNEREFFID A SAH  
BELAC TNAVRES YM ESUACEB  
TUB  
42:41 SREBMUN

Write your answer here!



## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

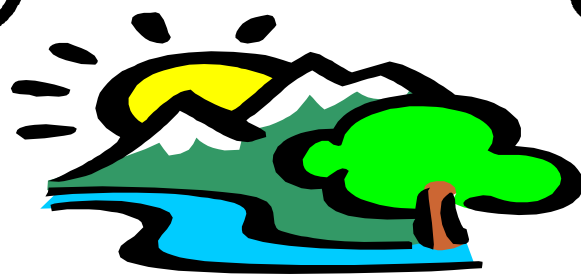
What are some things that make you want to grumble or complain? Has there ever been a time when you got what you wanted but it didn't make you feel better? How was that like the Israelites eating the quail? (Numbers 11:32-34)

Is there anyone who makes you jealous? What is it about that person that makes you jealous? Are you satisfied with what God has given you and how He has made you? Is there any reason to be jealous of anyone if we trust God wholeheartedly?

Is there anything that makes you afraid? Do you believe that God promises to take care of you in every situation? How did the ten spies prove that they believed that the Canaanites were stronger than God? How does our fear show that we think God isn't strong enough to take care of us?

Do you need to pray and confess any sin of unbelief?

# Trusting God Wholeheartedly



*“But because My servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows Me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.”*  
**Numbers 14:24**

Some of the complaints I struggle with are:

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Read the following passages (one each day), and summarize what God is telling us in His Word.

Monday: I Thessalonians 5:18, 23-24

Tuesday: 2 Timothy 2:11-13 & 19

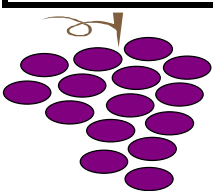
Wednesday: Jude 24-25

Thursday: Psalm 37

Friday: Psalm 18:25-36

Saturday: 2 Corinthians 3:5 & 12:9-10

Sunday: 2 Peter 1:3-11



How can I work toward trusting God more in all areas within my life?

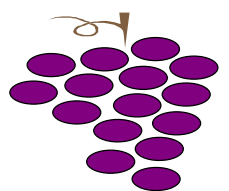
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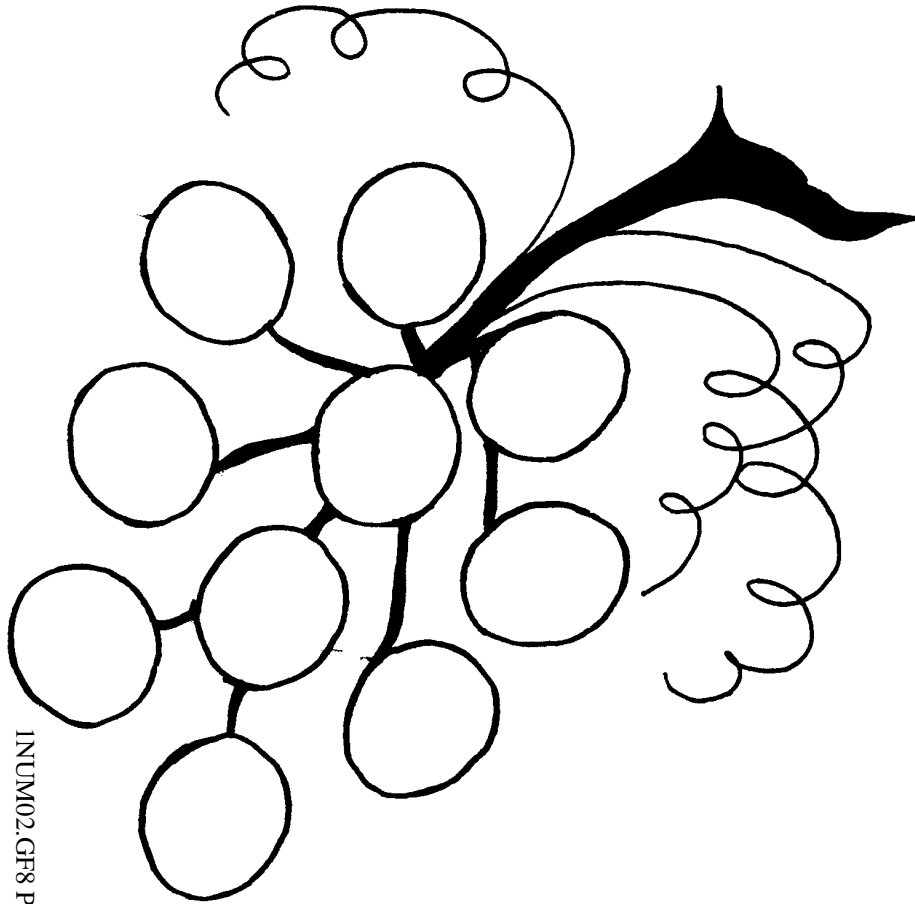
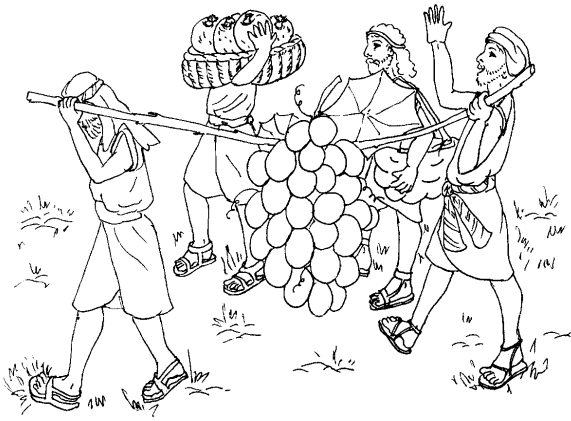


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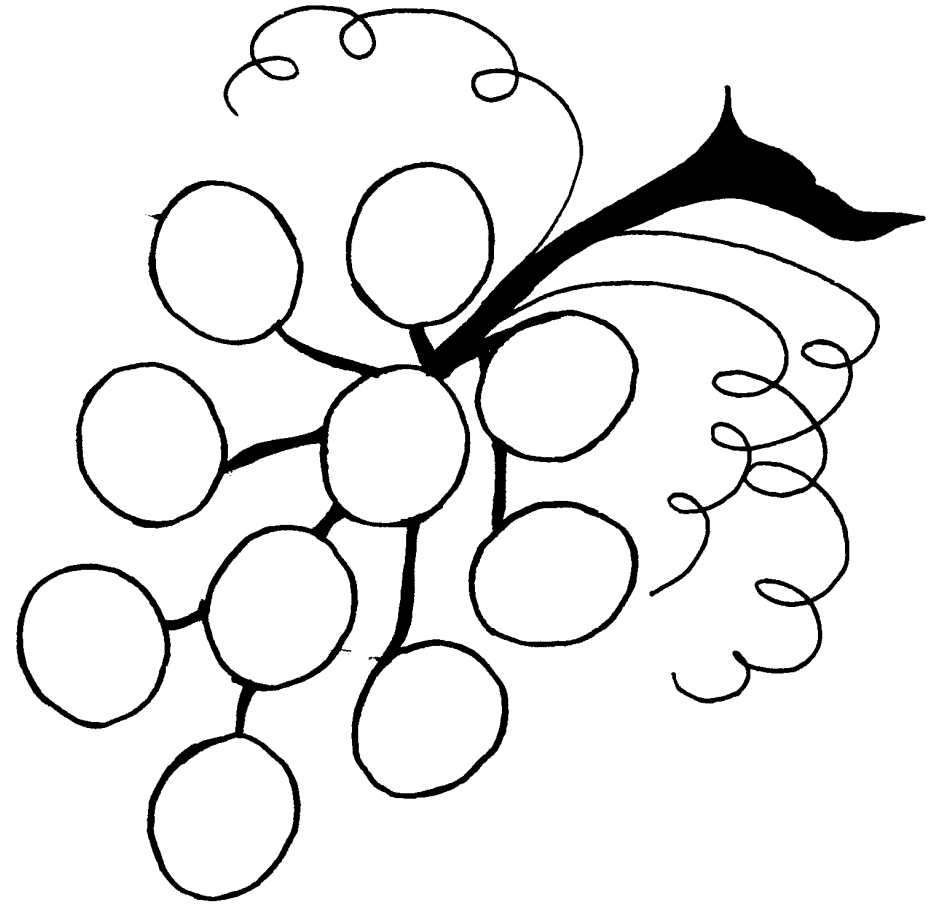


# A Grape Report!

Read Numbers 13 & 14. Moses sent 12 spies into the land God promised to give to the Israelites. When they came back 40 days later, they reported what they had seen. Two different reports were given. Cut out the grapes on 1NUM02.GF8 PG. 2, and attach them to the grape cluster which represents the two reports and what happened after the reports were given.



Grapes of Faith & Trust



Grapes of Fear & Doubt

# A Grape Report!

Cut out the grapes and place them on the grape cluster on 1NUM02.GF8 Pg. 1 whose description they best fit.

Caleb  
&  
Joshua

The  
land  
is  
good

God  
will fight  
for us

God  
has  
promised  
it

God  
is  
pleased

Let's  
trust  
God

Caleb  
& Joshua  
tore their  
clothes

They  
had faith  
in  
God

Moses  
prayed  
for  
them

Moses  
and  
Aaron

Do not  
rebel  
against  
the Lord

Do not  
fear the  
people of  
the land

They  
are too  
strong

The  
people  
cried  
all night

The  
cities  
have huge  
walls

They  
lacked  
faith in  
God

We  
looked like  
grasshoppers  
to them

Let  
us  
stone  
them

10  
Spies

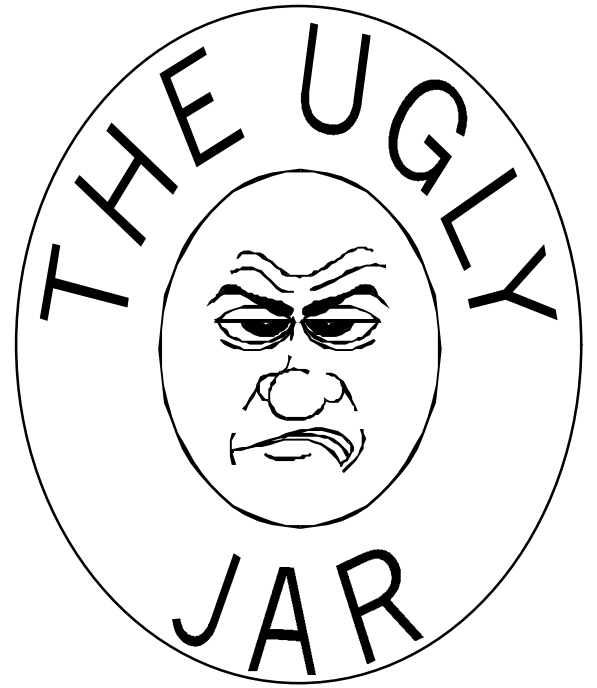
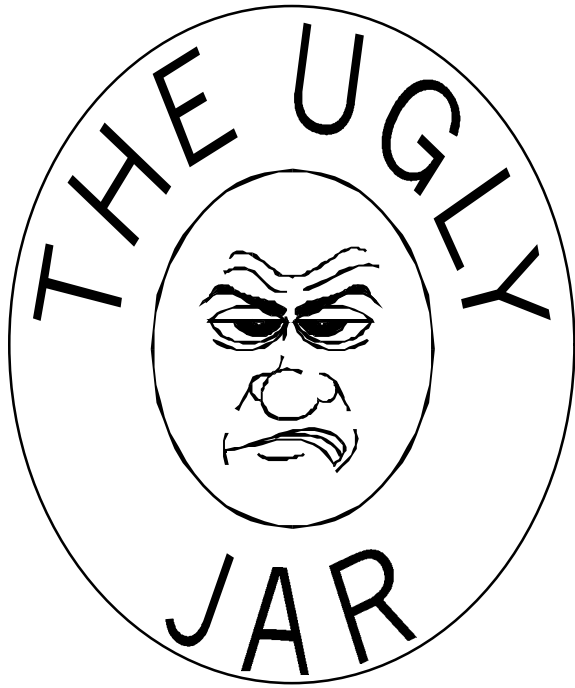
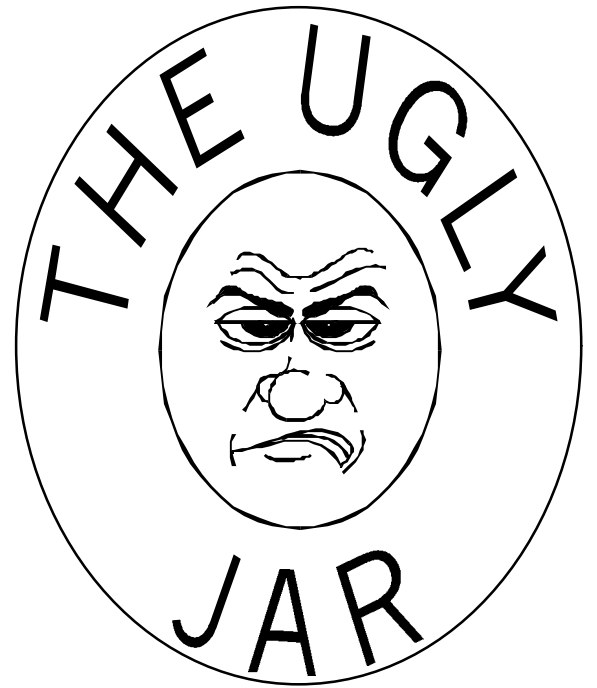
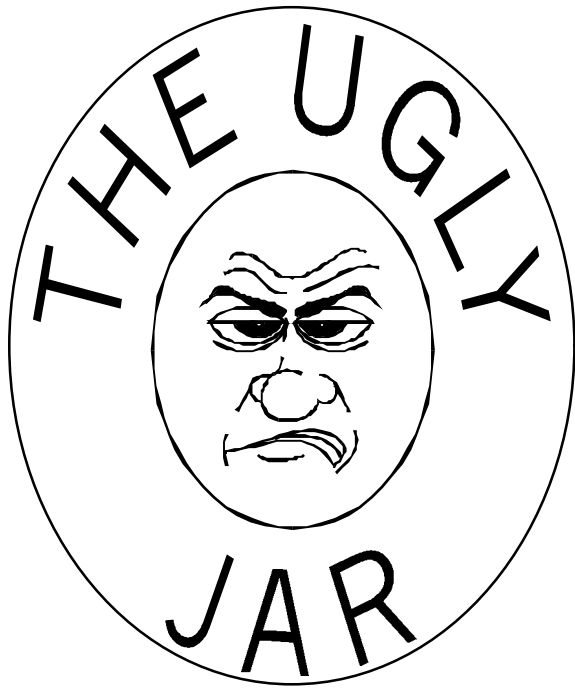
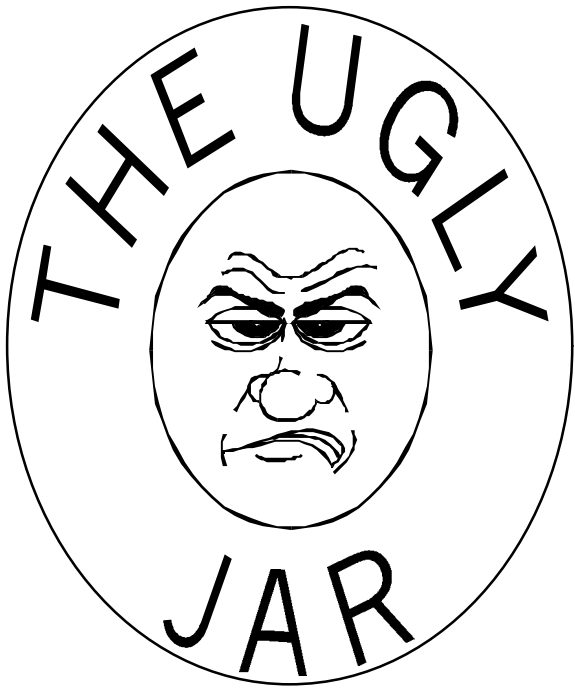
We  
are  
afraid

The  
land  
is  
good

We  
can't  
do it

They  
are  
TOO  
BIG

God  
is  
angry



How to use the Ugly Jar

1. Set the Ugly Jar in a place where everyone can see it.
2. Each time someone grumbles, has a bad attitude, or says unkind words they must pay the Ugly Jar \_\_\_\_¢.
3. If a person does not have \_\_\_\_¢, they may write an I.O.U. on a slip of paper and place it in the Ugly Jar.
4. A person must pay all their I.O.U.s by the end of each week. These may be worked off with simple chores. Remember, no grumbling!
5. At then end of a month, plan a family outing using the “ugly money” to pay for something pleasant to the mouth such as an ice cream cone or small treat.
6. Memorize Proverbs 25:11.

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