



## SDG Discussion Guide

Numbers 11-12

March 4, 2018

For starters:

What is your favorite food and to what lengths have you gone to get it?

What food were you served as a kid “because it was good for you” but that you did not want to eat?

If you had to pick one, what kind of eater would you say you are now: Like a bird (eating little)? Like a dog (eager to eat)? Like a cat (finicky)? Elaborate.

Interaction with the text: (The following questions are meant to provide points of further interaction with the respective sermon text. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.)

As you can, read aloud chapter 11 in your group. Before you begin the discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text, what points and questions of the text arose? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these. What else did you notice? Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions for interaction.

1. What is the attitude of the Israelites in this chapter (compare to Ex 16)?
2. What has been the net effect of all the complaints on Moses? Why does Moses want to quit (vv 10-15)? Why did he doubt the Lord’s promise of regrettable abundance (vv 18-22)?
3. Why does Moses wish that all God’s people could prophesy, as did the 70 elders (vv 25-29)?
4. How does God appear to you (unfair, justified, merciful, angry) here: In verse 10? In verses 16-17? In verses 18-20? Verse 23? Verse 33? Why?
5. How would God’s varied response to Israel help them succeed in their journey through the wilderness?
6. When are you, like Israel and Moses, most likely to become discouraged with your allotment or position in life? When discouraged, do you tend to listen more to people’s complaints or to inner doubts or what?
7. What kinds of complaints or cravings diminish your fellowship with God? Your self-confidence?
8. How is the story of Jesus feeding the multitudes with loaves and fish like and unlike this story of God providing manna and quail?
9. What does God’s handling of this situation teach you about any of your relationships where-in there’s a “demanding” or “entitled” dynamic?
10. How can God’s “manna” and “quail”, in this story and in your life, help you foster a right relationship with God?

Spend some time in prayer. Ask God to help you to pray. Ask God to speak to you and to show you anything you need to see in or around the content of this passage. Pause and sit in silence a while, listening.... Ask God to help you to respond. Ask God to both encourage and challenge you regarding any particular area where you need it. Go forth this week in the confidence of God’s impetus to provide for you and those around you in the way you need most.

\*These questions were adapted from The Serendipity Bible for Groups (Zondervan, 1998).