

Check Your Attitude



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Imagine that your mom makes something for dinner that you really don't like. What are you going to say in response? You might wrinkle up your face and say something like, "*Yuck! Do I have to eat that? Why can't I have pepperoni pizza puffs instead?*" Do you think God would be pleased with that response?

Long ago the Israelites grumbled and complained about their food, too. In the book of Exodus we discover that the Israelites had been slaves in Egypt. They cried out to God for help, and God miraculously rescued them. He led them out of Egypt and through the desert, to the land he would give them as their new home. Were the Israelites grateful? No, they complained because they didn't have any food. So God, in his kindness, gave them manna to eat. Now were they thankful? No, they grumbled because they didn't have any meat. So God gave them meat to eat. Were they finally satisfied? No, I'm sorry to say they weren't. They continued to question God's goodness, saying things like "*God, why did you lead us into this desert? Where's the water? Did you lead us out here to die?*" After all God had done for them in rescuing them from slavery and providing all their needs, they still grumbled and complained. They still questioned his wisdom and goodness.

What about you? Are you ever tempted to grumble and complain? Instead, we should do all things - ***everything*** - with thankfulness because we recognize the many ways God has been good to us and we trust him to do what's best in our lives. In what situations are you most tempted to grumble? How should you respond instead?

Do you ever dispute with your parents? It's okay to ask questions if you need help, but it's not okay to use questions as a way of disputing or arguing; questions like, "*Why can't I? Why do I have to? Why?*" Remember, God has given parents for your good. Grumbling against parents is grumbling against God. In what situations are you most tempted to question your parents? How should you respond instead?