

Text: Exodus 16:2-15

A story: Mr Grumpy: Mr Grumpy could not stand reading a book, he would tear all the pages out of it, described as having a shocking bad temper. Grumpy by name and more grumpy by nature. Even when he goes into the garden, he pulls out every flower for can't stand beautiful flowers. When his fellow neighbour tries to say good morning the only thing, he can do is to grunt at them angrily, "Good? What is good about it?".

*There are so many people like Mr Grumpy, they will never appreciate anything in life- ever complaining about almost everything....

1. A New Way Out- God has a new way of getting us out of sin and into His family.

The Israelites are complaining to Moses...God provided a way for Israel to get out of Egypt. He used Moses as the main leader who would guide the people and lead them out to the promised land.

They are tempted to want to return to Egypt for the sake of the familiar, as if they do not appreciate:

- Their freedom from bondage.
- Moses' sacrifice- giving up his status at Pharaoh's palace.
- God's guidance and delivering hand , so far, "By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night" (Exod. 13:21) and parting of the Red Sea (Exodus 14)

- They regard their past abuse and ill-treatment from cruel task masters as normal. I do not blame them for it was over 430 years of their being in Egypt, generations trapped in a system. They would rather suffer in Egypt under the oppressor, not realising how much God has in store for them. **Yet God is calling them to starting life anew in a fresh place, to start doing something new and differently....Pharaoh is no longer king, but God YHWH is their LORD.** He is

preparing them for something bigger and glorious- but there is something God wants them to give up.

-We need to understand that just as Israel was powerless to get themselves out of Egypt, so we are powerless to get ourselves out of the trap of sin. People are addicted to sin and we all need God's help to get free from it. When things are not going right we complain and blame others... What would we be willing to give up to get that?

2. A New Heart

In this season- expect God to reinvent you , to remove the negative mind set in you, and give you peace!! **God will make a way where there seems to be no way- in your life and in this season.**

A "New Normal" is something that we do not own... it is only God who can do new things!!! We wait on him and look up to Him in prayer, for answers. Not complaining as the Israelites did. Let us trust God for the things that he has done in our lives, He has already proved His faithfulness.

Stop complaining...

Ezekiel 36: I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Conclusion:

God is calling us to a life of obedience, on our journey with him let us trust Him for his providence. We can experience true joy and transformation if we will take the challenge to strive to seek a New way to live.

For you to be able to experience God's touch in your life and to experience his peace...that peace which passes all understanding even in the storms- you need to be prepared to walk away from Egypt and to embrace the future under his guidance. **Amen**