

## PRAYER



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Heavenly Father, thank you that you are our Jehovah Jireh, our provider, from whom all things come from. Help us today to hear from you, trust you, and be grateful for all that you have given us. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

## WARM UP (OPTIONAL)

If you were famous, what would you be known for?

## NOTES



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## WORD

<sup>1</sup> And the people complained in the hearing of the Lord about their misfortunes, and when the Lord heard it, his anger was kindled, and the fire of the Lord burned among them and consumed some outlying parts of the camp. <sup>2</sup> Then the people cried out to Moses, and Moses prayed to the Lord, and the fire died down. <sup>3</sup> So the name of that place was called Taberah,[a] because the fire of the Lord burned among them.

<sup>4</sup> Now the rabble that was among them had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, "Oh that we had meat to eat!" <sup>5</sup> We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic.

<sup>6</sup> But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

<sup>7</sup> Now the manna was like coriander seed, and its appearance like that of bdellium.

<sup>8</sup> The people went about and gathered it and ground it in handmills or beat it in mortars and boiled it in pots and made cakes of it. And the taste of it was like the taste of cakes baked with oil. <sup>9</sup> When the dew fell upon the camp in the night, the manna fell with it.

<sup>10</sup> Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the Lord blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. <sup>11</sup> Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me?" <sup>12</sup> Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,' to the land that you swore to give their fathers?

<sup>13</sup> Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, 'Give us meat, that we may eat.' <sup>14</sup> I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup> If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness." <sup>16</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them stand there with you. <sup>17</sup> And I will come down and talk with you there. And I will take some of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, so that you may not bear it yourself alone.

### NUMBERS 11:1-17

"Oftentimes our feelings of isolation increase right along with our success. There are many reasons for this – some that have to do with the dynamics that others bring, and some have to do with ourselves. We might feel that our need for others is a sign of weakness that is incongruent with the in-control, I've-got-it-all-figured-out kind of person we think a leader is supposed to be. As the stakes get higher, we might find ourselves operating more and more out of the belief that if we want anything to be done right, we have to do it ourselves.

We may have had enough hard knocks in relationships that we are no longer willing to trust ourselves in the deepest ways to anyone. To make matters worse, we might

be so emotionally depleted that we don't cultivate community with other leaders, because that takes more energy than maintain a purely professional relationship. And it's a whole lot less risky! Whatever the reasons, this kind of isolation is a dangerous place for the leader to be. One day, we wake up and realize that we are so empty inside that we want to die, or at least quit."

**- Ruth Haley Barton, *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: Seeking God in the Crucible of Ministry***

## GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1-10 (1 = none at all; 10 = extremely), how would you rate your awareness of being in a low emotional, spiritual, or physical state? Why have you rated yourself that way?
2. What things do you do to fill up your emotional, spiritual, and physical state?
3. When you read the extract from Ruth Haley Barton above, she refers to Moses reaching a point in his leadership where he wanted to die or at least quit. In [verse 16](#) onwards from the passage above, what are some key things that God instructed that helped Moses in this situation?
4. From these key things that you have identified in question 3, which ones do you actively apply in your life, and which ones do you think you need to consider or strengthen? For example, who are the people or leaders you have around you?
5. If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, would you choose today to trust him? Will you enable him to have all authority as the one who calls the shots in your life? Would you like to enter into a saving relationship with God through Jesus?

Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

*Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to be the master of my life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. I declare that I am yours, and you are mine. In Jesus' name, Amen.*