



## The Honest Stories of Men from the Bible

### Moses - Numbers 11

Well, this certainly sounds intense. You say, what an uplifting subject for a Bible study. I cannot speak for you, but I have wanted to die. The weird thing was that I was not considering suicide; I just wanted to stop living and get away from the grief.

1.   Y  N Have you ever been there?
2. If you have ever had such a thought, what did you do about it?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What caused the thought for you? \_\_\_\_\_

### LET'S SEE WHAT MOSES WAS DEALING WITH.

As you recall, God told Moses to lead the Jews out of Egypt. (Ex. 3:10)

4. What was Moses' response to God? (Ex. 3:11-13) \_\_\_\_\_
5.   Y  N Is it possible that since Moses made some big mistakes earlier in his life (like murder), he might not feel **confident** now?
6.   Y  N You think Moses was **overwhelmed** with the task before him of leading over 2 million Jewish people out of Egypt.
7. How do we know that things were not going well in Moses' thinking? (Ex. 5:22) \_\_\_\_\_
8. It's pretty obvious that God had put Moses in charge of something pretty big. What phrase in the following verses give us a clue? (Ex. 7:14; 8:1; 9:1; 10:1) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you get the impression from Ex. 5:22 that Moses is **blaming God** for the whole mess? "God, why did you get me involved in this."

9.   Y  N Have you ever blamed God for anything?
10.   Y  N Did you get into a relationship (like wife or girl friend) or a gang affiliation, or a crime, or a trial and just wanted to die?
11.   Y  N Is it possible that the **consequences** for what you are facing are just too great to deal with anymore?

12. Imagine this, Moses goes back to Egypt to deliver the Jewish people (at God's command); BUT, what happened? (Ex. 6:12)
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*While Moses was having his pity party with God, he thought, "**If no one trusts me or will listen to me**, why would Pharaoh listen to me?*

13. When Pharaoh would not release the Jewish people, what did God have to do? (Ex. 9:14) \_\_\_\_\_

*God can drop judgments on a nation without impacting certain parts of the population. It is possible that the Jews were spared the gross judgments since they possibly lived separately from the Egyptians in Goshen.*

14. Y N Is it possible that the Jewish people were fearful with the horrible things happening around them, and could have complained to Moses repeatedly?

*People around us can cause us a lot of **pressure and grief**; they can **expect more from us** than we can possibly give; they can constantly remind us of our **past failures**.*

15. Finally, the Jewish nation leaves Egypt. What a victory!! What happened one month out on the trip? (Ex. 16:2-3)
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16. Interesting ... God did not tell Moses to fix the problem. What did God say? (Ex. 16:4) \_\_\_\_\_

17. What was the next problem? (Ex. 17:1-2) \_\_\_\_\_

18. Moses seemed to be getting more irritated with the people as time went along. What did he say to the people in Ex. 17:2?
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19. What did Moses say to God? (Ex. 17:4) \_\_\_\_\_

20. What did the people accuse Moses of? (Ex. 17:3) \_\_\_\_\_

*Isn't it true that when you **cannot fix a problem**, you want to have a meltdown? What do you do when you **can't please anybody**? How much **blame** can you take?*

21. Have you ever been here? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_
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22. OK, fast forward to Numbers 11:1-6. They are further down the road out of Egypt. What is the issue now? \_\_\_\_\_

23. What did Moses do this time? (Ex. 11:2)  
\_\_Y\_\_N Fuss back at the people in agitation  
\_\_Y\_\_N Pray for the Lord to intervene.

24. In Numbers 11:1, what were the people complaining about?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (If you said nothing you are right. That even made God mad.)

*Then the people **started complaining again** about the food. Yes, God was angry at the people, and yes, Moses was "ticked".*

25. In Num. 11:15, what did Moses tell God to do? \_\_\_\_\_

*It appears that Moses had had enough. **He wanted to die**. He wanted God to do it. However, this was all in a prayer. Good move, Moses. Talk to God.*

26. Did Moses actually say these things to God? (Num. 11:11-15)

- a. \_\_Y\_\_N God, you are picking on me. I want to die.
- b. \_\_Y\_\_N Can't I ever please you, Lord. I want to die.
- c. \_\_Y\_\_N Why must I care for these people. I want to die.
- d. \_\_Y\_\_N These people are not my family. I want to die.
- e. \_\_Y\_\_N I do not want to be needed by them. I want to die.
- f. \_\_Y\_\_N I hate my wretched attitude. I want to die.
- g. \_\_Y\_\_N I do not like the way you are treating me. I want to die.
- h. \_\_Y\_\_N This burden is too heavy for me. I want to die.

27. Finally, Moses gets down to the basic problem:  
(Num. 11:14) "I am not able to handle all these people \_\_\_\_\_."

28. Write the missing word again: \_\_\_\_\_.

29. God promised to be with them. How did they know? (Num.. 10:34)

*He has promised to be with us too. If life seems too heavy to endure anymore, and you just want to die, could you give God a chance?*

30. What did Moses say? (Num. 10:29) \_\_\_\_\_

31. What did God say? (Num. 11:23) \_\_\_\_\_

*We cannot make it alone. The troubles are heavy; the regret may be great. Jesus said, "Come unto Me, all you burdened down; I will hold you up."*