



September 9, 2012

FGTG #2:

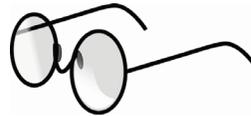
JADED BY JEALOUSY
COMPLAINING BECAUSE OF COVETOUSNESS
Numbers 12:1-16

Sermon Outline

1. Jealousy is a Source of Grumbling and Complaining (v. 1-3)
2. What God Sovereignly Gives Another is None of Your Concern (v. 4-8)
3. God Takes Complaining Caused by Jealousy Seriously because It is Akin to Rebelling Against God's Will (v. 9-16)

Application Question

Do you look through the eyes of JEALOUSY or do you look through the eyes of BLESSINGS?



Discussion Questions

1. How do you feel when God blesses you, especially when it is something you don't deserve? How do you honestly feel when God blesses others?
2. We can learn a lot from Miriam and Aaron's big mistake. Read Numbers 12 again. Review what happened.
 - a. What was it that they were grumbling about? Was it something legitimate?
 - b. What caused them to feel the way they did?
 - c. What did they forget in the process of grumbling about Moses?
 - d. What was God's response?
 - e. Why was the punishment to Miriam for grumbling so severe?
3. We can learn from their life that we should respect God's anointed servants. We can also learn that God gave us different spiritual gifts and He uses us differently. Rick Warren says that in the area of spiritual gifting there is often "gift-envy" amongst Christians. What is the spiritual gift you wish you had? How do you feel when you see that gift you wish you had in others? Does it lead you to grumbling? How can it be corrected?
4. Do you agree that what God sovereignly gives someone else is none of our concern? Why is this so hard to accept? What if someone has received something they do not deserve or through unethical means? Do you acknowledge that it is a matter they will have to resolve with God? Do you trust in God's justice enough to deal with this situation or do you begin to complain about that person?
5. How does our grumbling reflect our attitude toward God? Do you agree with this statement—"when we complain about something, we are really complaining about God"? How is this true?
6. "Envy is an art of counting other people's blessings instead of your own." — Harold G. Coffin. What thought pattern should you pray for and change to be thankful instead of envious? Why is it important to be thankful? How can we be thankful?
7. Share your blessings this week with the group and close in a prayer of gratitude.

Part of the Sermon Series
From Grumbling to Gratitude
By Rev. Stephen Tan