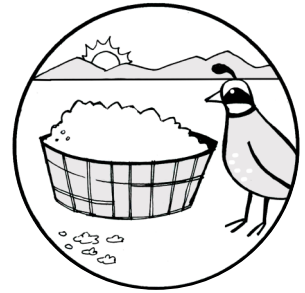


**Lesson #3-31***God Provides Gifts from Above*

Exodus 16:1-18

**Key Verse:**

I have heard the complaining of the Israelites...I am the LORD your God  
Exodus 16:12

**The Point:**

God sends blessings even when God's people complain and grumble.

**Unit Theme (September 10 - October 8):**

God Provides Blessings

# Praise Beats Complaints

*Worshipping a God who hears.*

*You will need:*

- † Activity Sheet
- † White board or poster paper
- † Markers

*Preparation:*

1. Make copies of Activity Sheet 4-5.A, one per person.

*Instructions:*

1. This worship experience combines today's key verse ("I have heard the complaining of the Israelites... I am the LORD your God." Exodus 16:12) with worship where the youth will praise God for specific blessings and will focus on who God is. Then they will silently pour out their heart's complaints, and all will worship the God who hears their complaining.

2. We are going to brainstorm to fill the white board with words that answer the following questions: What are some blessings that we take for granted? What do we often grumble about? Think about the things that you own that you are getting tired of or that are getting old. Consider the foods you get tired of eating. What about tasks that you are sick of having to do all the time?
3. Come up and write your ideas on the white board as they come to mind.
4. When the board is full, distribute the activity sheet.
5. We are going to worship God using this sheet as a guide. When it is your turn, fill in the blank with something on the white board or another idea that you have that didn't get on the board.



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## Activity Sheet

# Praise Beats Complaints

*Worshipping a God who hears.*

Leader: **“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites... I am the LORD your God.”** (Exodus 16:12)

One Youth: Praise God for \_\_\_\_\_ (something on the white board list or another idea that missed the list).

Leader: **“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites... I am the LORD your God.”**

One Youth: Praise God for \_\_\_\_\_ (something on the white board list or another idea that missed the list).

*(Continue the above until each youth has had an opportunity to participate in worship.)*

Leader: **Quietly pour out your heart to God, sharing all of your personal complaints and grumbling.**

All: *(Silent prayer.)*

Leader: **Let us worship the God who hears both our praise and our grumbling, the God who is patient with us, the God who is blesses us even when we do not deserve it.**

All: Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Thank you for hearing us.