

Leader Conversation Guide – The Grave You Crave

Main Idea

In this message, Pastor Charlotte challenged us to pay close attention to our cravings. From Day One in the Garden, the enemy has tried to manipulate and redirect the appetites of humankind. He works to get our focus off the many incredible things we do have and onto something we are not allowed to have—something that will rob us of the good things God has given us. The Israelites fell for this scheme when God miraculously provided manna for them in the desert (Numbers 11). Even though they experienced a miracle every morning, they became dissatisfied with eating the same food over and over. They lost their appetite for the miracle. They even longed for the food of Egypt—where they had been enslaved! Ultimately, God became so tired of hearing their complaints that He did send in meat from the sea—and with it, a plague that killed many of the Israelites. At the end of the day, their cravings led to them to their grave. We need to be aware of the ways the enemy tries to manipulate our cravings and prepare to respond in righteousness, with faithfulness to God, and with eyes to see the miracle that He has given us.

Make It Practical

- See that the manna is the miracle. Thank God every day for the answered prayers in your life.
- Be a prophetic people in a polarized world. Let your own relational health and purity prophesy to the goodness of God's plan for relationships. Use your mouth to speak truth into others and encourage them to follow God's way.

“The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites started wailing and said, ‘If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost—also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!’”

Numbers 11:4-6 NIV

Talk About It

1. What is an answered prayer in your life that you tend to take for granted (e.g. your marriage, your kids, your home, etc.)? Why have you lost sight of that miracle? What do you need to do to be able to see the miracle again?
2. In what area of your life can you see the enemy trying to manipulate your appetite? What “post card” does he show you to make you think about the past with longing and the present with lack? How can you best prepare to respond when temptation comes?
3. How can you prophesy to others when they are struggling? Are you willing to be a voice for truth in the world around you? What is the best way to communicate God’s truth with others?

GOD’S WAY IS THE ONLY WAY THAT WE ARE GOING TO BUILD SOMETHING THAT SUSTAINS AND SATISFIES US.

Prayer

Father, thank You for being our Provider and doing miraculous things in our lives. Help us be grateful for those miracles every day. Forgive us for the ways our cravings have been leading us toward our graves. Make us crave only the things that lead to life! And let our lives prophesy the goodness of Your ways to the world around us. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Leader Tips

Create a safe space for discussing difficult topics this week. Have all of your group members acknowledge that everything said during your group time is confidential. Then, share how this message challenged you personally. Your vulnerability will help others open up as well.