



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 2: Provision

Suggested Week of Use: September 14, 2025

Core Passage: Numbers 11:4-17

News Story Summary

A recent global survey—based on nearly 100,000 traveler reviews—identified the ten most disappointing travel destinations in the world. At least half of the locales would be considered luxury or “bucket list” destinations. At the top of the list is Cancún, Mexico, with 14.2% negative reviews. Other spots on the list include Punta Cana, Dominican Republic (11.9% negative); Orlando, Florida (10.6% negative); Honolulu, Hawaii (9.9% negative); and Playa Del Carmen, Mexico (9% negative). Traveler complaints ranged from overcrowding and impersonal service to unrealistic expectations shaped by marketing and social media.

For more about this story, search “Popular destinations that disappoint.”

Engage

To supplement the Engage activity, invite adults to share about times when they had high expectations for a vacation, event, or experience—only to find that the reality didn’t live up to the hype. Share the information about the survey identifying some of the world’s most disappointing travel destinations. Note that complaints ranged from overcrowding and long lines to underwhelming experiences compared to expectations. Ask: *Are you surprised that such popular locations get such negative reviews? Why or why not?* Acknowledge that sometimes the problem of expectations rests with us, not with our locations or experiences. Point out that we can get frustrated because something didn’t live up to the visions we had in our minds.

Say: *Sometimes, that’s even how we treat God. We complain because He doesn’t do things exactly the way we think they should be done.* Explain that this is not a new problem. Share that today’s session focuses on how the Israelites grumbled about a miracle from the Lord just because they were hoping for something else.

Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activity, remind the group of the travelers disappointed by dream destinations. Say: *It’s easy to complain on vacation because reality doesn’t match our expectations. But it’s a bigger deal when we turn up our noses at God’s daily provision because it doesn’t look the way we expected.* Challenge the group to take three simple steps this week:

1. **Identify “Manna Moments.”** Take time each day to name one way God is providing for you—even in ordinary, everyday things.
2. **Pause Before Complaining.** When you catch yourself frustrated about what you *don’t* have, pause and ask: *What has God already provided that I might be overlooking?*
3. **Share God’s Provision.** Consider tangible ways you can share God’s blessings with someone else this week—through things like encouragement, generosity, or prayer.