## Seasons - Wilderness March 18, 2018

*Announcements*: What is your group doing to celebrate Easter? Discuss the possibility of attending the *Stations of the Cross* (Thurs. March 29 & Friday March 30 from 5-9pm) together as a group.

The people of Israel grumbled and mumbled during their wilderness wanderings. Read one example in Exodus 15:22-26. What are they complaining about?

Recap the things they've experienced leading up to this point. (Examples: Moses, Plagues, Passover, Parting of the Red Sea, etc.)

In light of those things, they still complained. What did their murmuring reveal about their hearts? How did God respond to their grumbling? How would you have responded to the grumbling Israelites if you were God? Why?

Many churches in the first century were facing their own 'wilderness' of persecution and trouble. How did Hebrews 10:19-25 encourage them to keep pressing ahead?

Hebrews 4:15 assures the church that Jesus understands our struggles, not just by observing them, but by experiencing them. How does it encourage you to know that Jesus knows the challenges you are experiencing?

Think about the people in your immediate circle. Who do you know that is currently in the wilderness? How can you encourage them in the course of their journey? If you're the person in the wilderness, How can a brother or sister encourage you?

