

# 119

## MINISTRIES

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### **Parashah Points: Korach - Dealing with Discontentment**

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Korach, which is Hebrew for “Korah,” and it goes from Numbers 16:1 to Numbers 18:32.

This Torah portion tells the story of Korah’s revolt against Moses and Aaron, the budding of Aaron’s rod, and the duties of the Priests and Levites.

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to talk about how to respond when we are feeling discontent.

In the Book of Numbers we read an interesting story about a Levite named Korah who incited a mob against Moses and Aaron. He said they were bad leaders and didn’t like the way they were running things (Numbers 16:3). But when we take a closer look, we discover Korah’s real reason for his complaint:

#### **Numbers 16:8-10**

**And Moses said to Korah, “Hear now, you sons of Levi: is it too small a thing for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to himself, to do service in the tabernacle of the Lord and to stand before the congregation to minister to them, and that he has brought you near him, and all your brothers the sons of Levi with you? **And would you seek the priesthood also?**”**

Here we see that Moses exposes Korah’s real motivation: he was unsatisfied being only a Levite. Korah wanted to be a priest. He wanted Aaron’s position. Discontentment was the root of his frustration and his criticisms of Moses and Aaron.

We see that discontentment was at the heart of the complaints from Korah’s followers as well. They didn’t like being in the wilderness; they wanted to go back to Egypt:

## Numbers 16:12-13

And Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and they said, “We will not come up. Is it a small thing that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, that you must also make yourself a prince over us?”

Did you catch that? They referred to *Egypt*—where they were slaves—as a “land flowing with milk and honey.” They were so discontent that they became delusional. They lashed out at Moses because they were frustrated with their circumstances.

How often have you lashed out and hurt others because you weren’t satisfied with your current situation in life? How many times have you unwisely reacted out of frustration?

We all get discontent sometimes. It’s not wrong to have goals, dreams, and desires, and to work toward achieving them. But we can’t allow unfulfilled desires to breed discontentment and frustration within our hearts.

So how do we deal with discontentment? One way would be to focus on all of the things you’re grateful for. Thank God in *all* circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

Unsatisfied with your job? Thank God that you at least *have* a job. Feeling discontent in your marriage? Instead of being critical about every little thing you wish was different, focus on all the things you love and appreciate about your spouse. And express that appreciation and gratitude often!

Don’t allow discontentment to rule your heart and cause you to lash out and make unwise decisions. Trust God and rest in his plan and purposes for your life. He has you right where you are now for a reason.

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

*We pray you have been blessed by this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom! For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at [www.testeverything.net](http://www.testeverything.net)*

**Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.**

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