

## March 2 Answers

- 1) From Sinai to Kadesh-barnea. God led Israel by the **cloud** which stayed over the Tabernacle. When it lifted, the Israelites would set out, and when it stopped, the Israelites would camp. Sometimes it remained for **one** night, while at other times it would remain for **months**. Whatever the case, the Israelites moved only on God's command. This teaches us that God leads us one **step** at a time. He wants us to learn to move only at His command. The people had been at Mount Sinai for almost a **year**, but it only took **three** days on the road to Canaan before they started complaining. They were so caught up in what they didn't have that they forgot what God had given them: freedom from **slavery**, His sacred **covenant**, His **presence** in their midst, etc. This teaches us that when we're feeling discontent, we should **remember** all God has done for us and **trust** Him to meet our needs. The spirit of discontent in the camp wasn't limited to the people. Miriam and Aaron, feeling jealous of Moses due to an incident with Moses' wife, spoke against him. When they did this, they actually spoke against **God**, for Moses was His faithful servant (Heb 3:2, 5). God punished Miriam, the instigator, by striking her with a skin disease, and even though God healed her at Moses' request, she was put outside the camp for a **week**. She had to publicly endure the humiliation that went along with being rebuked for disrespect. Once again, God was merciful while exercising effective **discipline**.