

## “Grumbles and Rumbles”

### Philippians 2:14 (NIV)

“Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation. Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.”

- “Do all you have to do without grumbling or arguing, so that you may be blameless and harmless, faultless children of God...”  
J.B. Phillips
- “Do it all without mutual fault-finding, without disputing, that you may show yourself blameless, uncontaminated, irreproachable children of God...” Way Translation
- “Practice doing everything without grumbling and disputing, so that you may prove to be blameless and spotless, faultless children of God...” Williams N.T.
- “Be ever on your guard against a grudging contentious spirit, so that you can always prove yourselves to be blameless and spotless...” Weymouth N.T.
- “Do everything readily and cheerfully-no bickering, no second guessing allowed! Go out into the world uncorrupted, a breath of fresh air...” The Message
- “Whatever you do, avoid grumbling and argument, so that no one will be able to find fault with you or question your sincerity.”  
Translators N.T.
- “Do all that lies in you, never complaining, never hesitating, to show yourselves innocent and single-minded, God’s children...”  
Latin Vulgate
  
- The context of this scripture:
  1. Thankfulness and confidence in the work of God in all of us!
  2. The fruits of a righteous life.
  3. “For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” **(1:21)**
  4. Let your conduct be worthy of the Gospel of Christ. **(1:27)**
  5. Stand fast in one spirit, one mind, striving together for the faith!
  6. Look out for others not just yourselves! Get your eyes off of you!

7. We are to have the same “servant attitude” as Jesus.
8. It is God who is at work in you, changing you!! **(2:13)**
9. Realize that the “squeeze” you feel is the grace of God working to make you like Him!!
10. This “squeeze” or adjustments of God can cause us to be “uncomfortable to the point of “lashing out” at others!

- **When flesh is being dealt with, it is NOT very happy!**

I. “God loves you just the way you are, but He refuses to leave you that way. He wants you to be...just like Jesus!” Max Lucado

A. We CAN'T change ourselves!

**Titus 3:4-8**

**When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, 5 he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. 6 He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. 7 Because of his grace he made us right in his sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.**

**8 This is a trustworthy saying, and I want you to insist on these teachings so that all who trust in God will devote themselves to doing good. These teachings are good and beneficial for everyone.**

1. It's not about how hard you try!
2. He washed us!
3. We are justified by His grace!
4. BUT, it is up to us to “maintain” good works!
5. I don't do things to change, I do things because I AM changed!

B. Here is what this “new life” should look like!

1. “Be gentle and ready to forgive; never hold grudges. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” **Col. 3:13 (TLB)**

2. “Since you have been chosen by God who has given you this new kind of life, and because of His deep love and concern for you, you should practice tenderhearted mercy and kindness to others.” **Col. 3:12 (TLB)**
3. “Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says, is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.” **James 1:22-24 (NIV)**
4. “Our faces, then, are not covered. We all show the Lord’s glory, and we are being changed to be like Him. This change in us brings greater glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”  
**II Corinthians 3:18 (NCV)**

**II. Notice what NOT complaining allows!**

**Philippians 2:14-15**

**14 Do everything without complaining and arguing, 15 so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people.**

- A. “...that we may be blameless and innocent, children of God...”
  1. “Blameless” means: the alpha, first, union.
  2. I believe that this speaks of God restoring us back to the way things used to be...in the Garden!
  3. This is the goal of redemption!
  4. This is how our “lights shine” in the world!
  5. Being different than the world!
- B. “Innocent” means: unmixed

1. Jesus uses this terminology in **Matt. 5:8** when He says, **“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God!”** (unmixed in heart)
2. John says this in **I John 2:15**. (Don't love the world)

**15 Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.**

C. The whole point of it all! **Phil 3:12-15**

**12 I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. 13 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.**

**15 Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you.**

D. Don't hinder the working of God by grumbling, complaining and arguing!