

THE WEEKLY WORD

Word: COMPLAINING

Passage: Philippians 2:12-18

Key Verse: Philippians 2:14-15

“Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe...”

Commentary:

Which things are we to do without COMPLAINING? According to the apostle Paul, the answer is straightforward. We are to do all things without COMPLAINING. This is a direct command from the Word of God. It sits on even footing with the balance of biblical commands. There is no use trying to wiggle our way around it. Perhaps a look at Paul’s life could encourage us. Three times he was beaten with rods. Three times he was shipwrecked. He was stoned and left for dead in Lystra. He was falsely imprisoned. He was in danger from bandits and in danger from his fellow countrymen. He spent days cold, naked and starving. The list goes on. Yet, in none of these instances will you catch Paul COMPLAINING.

Paul gives the reason for this command in verse 15- “so that [we] may become blameless and pure children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which [we] shine like stars in the universe.” There is a direct link between not COMPLAINING and becoming who God wants us to be. COMPLAINING not only makes those around us miserable and robs us of joy that is available, but it actually prevents us from fulfilling our calling. Furthermore, if we live a life devoid of COMPLAINING, we will become like stars illuminating the way and pointing people to Jesus.

Challenge:

Listen to yourself today. Test yourself. See how much time you spend COMPLAINING. Be on the alert for COMPLAINING thoughts. Ask the Holy Spirit to heal you of a COMPLAINING attitude and to replace it with an attitude of gratitude.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, forgive me, and replace my words of COMPLAINING with words of thanksgiving and love.

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