

Joy Regardless: The Gospel Silences Grumbling

Joe Testa, College & Young Adult Pastor
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1. Paul's first thought –The Gospel silences grumbling and disputing.
(Philippians 2:12-14)
2. Paul's second thought –The Gospel makes us into people who shine in the midst of darkness. (Philippians 2:5-8, Philippians 2:15)
3. What makes being a child of God so amazing?
 - Your position is secure –you can't be unadopted (Ephesians 1:5, 1 John 3:1-2) Once God makes you His child, He won't ever un-adopt you.
 - You have the Holy Spirit in you, and you can be led by the Spirit (Romans 8:12-14)
 - You are heirs with Christ. You have an inheritance waiting for you one day (Romans 8:16-17)
4. Paul's final thought –We do all things without grumbling or disputing –we live as blameless and innocent children of God without blemish –we stand out as lights in a dark place... By this reality: We hold fast to the Gospel.
(Philippians 2:16)
5. The Greek word for hold fast literally means to hold upon or to fix our attention upon
6. Applications
 1. Grumbling's righteous enemy is prayer. Before you murmur to someone, go to God, and ask for His help in that matter.
 2. Give thanks in all circumstances –for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
 - a. Take 3 minutes a day and write down what you are thankful for. Turn it into your thanksgiving prayer journal. Make it a family habit and share what you're thankful for around the dinner table.
 3. Hold fast to the word of life –The Gospel. Find a way to hold onto the word of life –fixate on the Gospel.

GREEK WORDS

gongysmos (gong goose mos') –Complaining, grumbling, murmurings

Dialogismos (dia-lo-gismos) –reasoning, dispute, doubt

Phōstēr –star or radiance or a luminary, or light

QUOTES

“When we complain and grumble (and dispute), we are telling those around us that we believe God is doing a very poor job, and, if given the opportunity, we could do much better.” -**Roger Ellsworth**

“Every decision to grumble is a decision not to pray, not to pour out our hearts before God, not to draw near to his powerful throne of grace. Likewise, every decision to pray is a decision not to grumble.” -**Scott Hubbard**

“Because our grumbling relies on a false interpretation of reality, we need God to reinterpret our circumstances for us. Therefore, as Paul tells us, we put away grumbling by ‘holding fast to the word of life’.” - **Scott Hubbard from Desiring God**