

Engage Joy, pt 16
Unity Buster: Grumbling & Complaining
Philippians 2:14-18

Great places to do "it"

Context

A grumbling spirit reveals flaws in my character & conduct.

Command: *Do all things without grumbling and disputing*

all things = no **exceptions**

grumbling = under the breath; murmuring

disputing = through + logic; inward reasoning/questioning

What's the big deal?

reveals **flaws** in our character and conduct

blameless

innocent

above reproach

aim: unaccusable; no sin mixed in our life & **language**

A grumbling spirit destroys my ability to light a dark world.

Problem: the crooked world needs **straightening**

Opportunity: we can help straighten a very **twisted** world

crooked ⇒ *spiritual **scoliosis***

perverse = to twist or turn

The world is **not straight** on what God says is true;
they have **twisted** the truth & **turned** from it.

Whatever the issue, effective witness demands
association without **identification**.

Bring **light** and life to the dark and dying

Matthew 5:14-16

2 Corinthians 4:3-7

holding fast (forth)

Don't gripe it up, **light** it up!

A grumbling spirit undermines fruitful labor & wise investment.

run = exertion of **energy**

toil (to cut or strike); ⇒ labor to **exhaustion**

in vain = **empty**

The sacrifice and hard work of service (cf 1 Cor 15:58)

A grumbling spirit counts the cost instead of the privilege.

poured out ⇒ **spending** himself

upon the sacrifice and service

Is it worth it? (cf Gal. 6:9-10)

In contrast to the grumblers, Paul **rejoiced**.

Not a prohibition of constructive **dissent**

Take it Home