

HOW TO SAY GOODBYE TO COMPLAINING

Philippians 2:14-15

¹⁴ Do everything without grumbling or arguing,
¹⁵ 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.

Four common types of complainers

1. The Whiner
2. The Martyr
3. The Cynic
4. The Perfectionist

I. FOUR COMMON TYPES OF COMPLAINERS

1. THE "WHINER": _____

(David) "Have I been wasting my time Why take all the trouble to be pure? All I get out of it is trouble and woe." Psalm 73:13 (LB)

"They took their money and started grumbling against the employer ... `We put up with a whole day's work in the hot sun -- yet you paid them the same as you paid us." Matt. 20:11-12 (GN)

2. THE "MARTYR": _____

"Moses said to the Lord, `Why pick on me, to give me the burden of a people like this? I can't carry this nation by myself! ... If you're going to treat me like this, please kill me right now -- it will be a kindness! Let me out of this impossible situation!" Numbers 11:11-15 (LB)

3. THE "CYNIC": _____

(Solomon) "Life is useless ... you spend your life working and what do you have to show for it? ... the world stays just the same ... what has been done before will be done again." Eccl. 1:2-4,9 (GN)

4. THE "PERFECTIONIST" _____

"A nagging wife is like water going drip, drip, drip on a rainy day." Prov. 27:15 (GN)

"Better to live out in the desert than with a nagging, complaining wife." Prov. 21:19 (GN)

Answers

1. David; 2. Moses; 3. Solomon; 4. Nagging people

II. HOW TO CONQUER COMPLAINING

1. _____

"A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance." Prov. 28:13 (LB)

2. _____

"Some people ruin themselves by their own stupid mistakes and then blame the Lord." Prov. 19:3 (GN)

3. _____

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." I Thess. 5:18

"... I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances." Phil. 4:11

4. _____

"This small and temporary trouble we suffer will bring us a tremendous and eternal glory, much greater than the trouble. So we fix our attention, not on the things that are seen, but on the things that are unseen. What is seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever." 2 Cor. 4:17-18 (GN)

5. _____

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Eph. 4:29

"Don't keep on scolding and nagging your children, making them angry and resentful. rather, bring them up with loving discipline ... and godly advice." Eph. 6:4 (LB)

Take Home Application:

1. What type of complainer have I been?
2. What specific matter do I need to admit as a problem of complaining before God?
3. To whom do I want to develop the attitude of gratitude?
4. What (area, matter) do I need to speak positively with this week?

Answers

1. Admit it is a problem; 2. Accept responsibility for my own life; 3. Develop the attitude of gratitude; 4. Look for God's hand in circumstances; 5. Practice speaking positively