

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

September 4, 2022

WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS
 Finding My Joy in My Faithfulness
 Philippians 2:14-18
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NOTES

1. Open with prayer. (2-5 min)
2. Read Philippians 2:14-18.
3. Discuss these questions with your group. (20-45 min)

MY STORY | Vulnerability

Have you ever wished you could “take back” a complaint, or some instance of venting? What do you wish you could do differently?

DIGGING DEEPER | Practical Biblical Application

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world... (Philippians 2:14–15)

Why does Paul want the Philippian congregation to avoid grumbling and disputing?

What do you think it would mean to be “blameless and innocent” with our own everyday speech? What are some small changes you could make in the usual ways you communicate to get closer to this goal?

...holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. (Philippians 2:16–17)

How can “holding fast to the word of life” be an alternative to a pattern of grumbling and disputing? Name a specific biblical principle that could re-shape the way you speak with others.

How does Paul himself model an attitude free of grumbling? How would people rank you as a model in this regard?

GROWING TOGETHER | Spiritual Friendship

Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me. (Philippians 2:18)

How can we improve our relationships by replacing grumbling with humble and careful confrontation?

What are some specific situations where we can adjust our expectations, addressing our relational tensions rather than complaining about them?

Looking back at your notes from this week’s message, was there anything you heard for the first time, stuck with you, challenged or confused you?

What is the one important thing you will take away from this weekend’s message or our community group discussion? Is there any challenge, difficulty or praise that you would like to share with the group for prayer?



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MOVING OUTWARD | Faith in Action

Our everyday digital media landscape has a “tilted floor” that makes it easier to express discontent or anxiety. If you’re on social media, post a little extra positivity this week; steer the digital mediascape just a bit less in the direction of complaining.

