

Growth Group Leader Guide

This “growth group leader guide” is meant to be just that, a guide. Please feel free as the leader of your group to add questions or comments, as you feel necessary, to fit your group’s dynamics.

Also, don’t feel pressured to cover every question.

Before the sermon discussion, ask a few of these questions:

Does anyone want to share a gospel conversation they had with an unbeliever this week?

Is there someone you want to share the gospel with but don’t know how to start the conversation? Ask the group for ideas.

Did anyone pass on an opportunity or an open door for a spiritual conversation? Why?

Do All Things Without Grumbling – January 28, 2024

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

3 Parts to the Sermon

- **The Command**
- **The Example**
- **The Purpose**

I. The Command

- How do trials expose the heart and/or the true character of a person?
- **Read Philippians 4:4-7** and answer the following questions.
 - What are the commands given in this passage?
 - What does it mean to be “worried” or “anxious”?
 - What kinds of things do you worry about?
 - Has worry or anxiety ever accomplished anything good for you? Why do we still do it?
 - How can we have peace and not worry during difficulties or trials?

- **Read and discuss Philippians 2:14.**
- What do you think Paul means by “do all things” in verse 14? How does this relate to Philippians 4:4?
- Do you think Christians take the sin of grumbling very seriously? Why or why not?
- **Read and discuss** the following verses.
 - Numbers 11:1
 - James 5:9
 - 1 Peter 4:9
- What is at the heart of our complaining and grumbling?
- What is the difference between grumbling and constructive criticism?
- **Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-10.** Make note of the different sins Paul points out in these verses. Is it surprising to see grumbling listed with the other sins in this passage? Why or why not.
- **Read 1 Corinthians 10:11-13.** What is the warning in these verses? Why should we pay attention to it?
- Why is grumbling such a major sin? What are some common things Christians tend to “grumble” about today? What do you tend to “grumble” about in your life?
- What are the ways that God brings out the bitterness within our hearts? How should we deal with bitterness when it is exposed?
- Have you ever thought about grumbling as exercising distrust and/or ingratitude towards God? How does grumbling and complaining do this?
- What challenging experiences are you now facing that will, hopefully, help you to mature and glorify God?

II. The Example

- **Read and discuss** Exodus 16:4-8.
 - How many times is the word grumble used in verses 7 & 8? Why do you think Moses used this word so many times in these verses?
 - Compare Exodus 16:2 with Exodus 16:7. Why does Moses say that the Israelites were grumbling against the LORD, when it is clear in verse 2 that they were grumbling against Moses?

- **Read and discuss** the following quote.
 - *In the case of the Israelites, although they were taking things out on Moses, they were really angry with God. This is why God always takes our complaints personally. He knows that when we grumble about our personal circumstances, our spiritual leaders, or anything else, what we are really doing is finding fault with Him. We are complaining about what he has provided (or not provided, as the case may be). A complaining spirit always indicates a problem in our relationship with God. – Phillip Ryken*

III. The Purpose

- Why is Paul commanding the church not to grumble, according to verse 15?
- What do you think “shine as lights in the world” means?
- How would a lack of grumbling within the church display the grace of God in our lives?
- What does grumbling say about our faith in God?
- **Compare and contrast** Philippians 1:15 with Deuteronomy 32:5.
- How can you work on the sin of grumbling this week?

Final Prayer

- *Compose our spirits to a quiet and steady dependence on your good providence, that we may take no thought for our life, nor be anxious for anything, but by prayer and supplications, with thanksgiving, still make known our requests to you, our God. And help us to pray always and not faint; in everything to give thanks, and offer up the sacrifice of praise continually; to rejoice in hope of your glory; to possess our souls in patience; and to learn in whatsoever state we are, there to be content. – John Wesley*

Announcements:

- The Redeemed Motherhood conference is on February 10th at 8:30am in the Chapel! Join other moms for a time of teaching, fellowship, brunch, and worship. Sign up online! No childcare available.
- Griefshare is starting up on February 5th at 5:30pm in the Prayer Room. This is a special support group for people grieving the loss of someone close. Join anytime!
- Membership Class #1 is on February 11th at 8:50am in Room 202. Sign up online.