



A Pastor for Every Person!
ROCK GROUPS
(Evangelistic Care Groups)
ROCK GROUP DIRECTIVE

The Sin of Complaining

ICE BREAKER... What does the word complain mean to you?

Is complaining sometimes a problem for you?

When do you sense conviction about complaining?

Philippians 2 ¹⁴ Do **everything** without **complaining** or arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation...

Jesus said that our **words** reveal the condition of our **heart**

Matthew 12 ³⁴ ...For out of the **overflow** of the **heart** the **mouth speaks**.
³⁵ The good man brings **good things** out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings **evil things** out of the evil stored up in him. ³⁶ But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your **words** you will be **acquitted**, and by your **words** you will be **condemned**."

What Jesus taught applies to a **critical heart** and a **complaining mouth**.

DISCUSSION: How does a critical heart relate to a complaining mouth?

A **critical heart** spews **negative words** perpetuating a **complaining attitude** resulting in a **MISERABLE LIFE!** That misery not only affects complainers... those around them also suffer:

Proverbs 21 ¹⁹ It is better to live alone in the desert
than with a **crabby, complaining wife**. NLT

(of course, this can apply to men or women)

We have a **CHOICE** every day between complaining or praise.
It's not about our circumstances. It's about our response to them.
God **HATES** the sin of complaining, but He's pleased with gratitude.

Examples:

The Same Old Manna - Numbers 11:1-6

The Expensive Perfume - Matthew 26:8-10

The Overwhelmed Host - Luke 10:38-42

The Worshiping Prisoners - Acts 16:25-34

THREE PROMISES WE SHOULD KEEP

#1 I will not hang out with **negative, complaining, critical** people.

I Corinthians 15 ³³ “Bad company ***corrupts good character***”

#2 I will speak words of **life**.

Proverbs 18 ²¹ The ***tongue*** has the power of ***life*** and ***death***.

#3 I will be **thankful** for what I have and for those around me.

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

DISCUSSION

What practical things can we do to avoid the sin of complaining?

What promises do you need to make and keep?

- Limiting negative relationships?
- Limiting negative words?
- Maximizing gratitude?
- What else?

Let's ***pray in groups of three*** for our prayer needs...
including staying free from the sin of complaining

- ✓ Did you share the vision and mission of COTR and the Rock Groups?
- ✓ Prayer, Ministry time, and Fellowship
- ✓ Prayer for COTR Leadership
- ✓ “Empty Chair” Prayer - encourage group to **invite someone new next time**
- ✓ Did everyone complete the sign-in form?

 Remember to complete the **online report** and **attendance** for the meeting soon