

CONTAINING COMPLAINING

MY BIG FAT MOUTH, PART I

Pastor Ken Ritz * March 31, 2019 * New Life Vineyard Church

"Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe."

Philippians 2:14-15

FOUR COMMON TYPES OF COMPLAINERS

1. The WHINER: "It's Not Fair."

'Those people worked only one hour, and yet you've paid them just as much as you paid us who worked all day in the scorching heat.'

Matthew 20:12 NLT

2. The MARTYR: "No one appreciates me."

Moses said to the LORD, "Why are you treating me, your servant, so harshly? Have mercy on me! What did I do to deserve the burden of all these people...? ...If this is how you intend to treat me, just go ahead and kill me."

Numbers 11:11,15 NLT

3. The CYNIC: "Nothing will ever change."

"Life is useless, all useless. You spend your life working, laboring, and what do you have to show for it? ...The world stays just the same ... what has been done before will be done again."

Ecclesiastes 1:2-9 GN

4. The PERFECTIONIST: "Is that the best you can do?"

The whole community of Israel complained about Moses and Aaron. "If only the Lord had killed us back in Egypt," they moaned. "There we sat around pots filled with meat and ate all the bread we wanted. But now you have brought us into this wilderness to starve us all to death."

*(Moses) The Lord...has heard all your complaints against him...
Yes, your complaints are against the Lord, not against us.*

Exodus 16:2,3,8 NLT

HOW DO I BREAK THE HABIT OF COMPLAINING?

1. _____ it's a problem.
Now when the people complained, it displeased the Lord; for the Lord heard it, and His anger was aroused.

Numbers 11:1 NKJV

2. _____ responsibility for my own life.
"People ruin their lives by their own foolishness and then are angry at the Lord."

Proverbs 19:3 NLT

3. _____ the attitude of gratitude.
"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

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

By complaining:

1. I'm questioning God's wisdom.
2. I'm doubting God's care.
3. I'm forgetting God's goodness.

4. _____ speaking positively.
"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."

Ephesians 4:29