



# Complaining

Sunday, February 18, 2018

Dave Michel

Stepping Stones Community Church

<sup>11</sup> And they said to Moses, “Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren’t there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? <sup>12</sup> Didn’t we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, ‘Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It’s better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!’” **Exodus 14:11-12 NLT**

## 1. The truth about complaining

- **Biblical command to not complain**
- **Complaining is blaming God**

<sup>14</sup> Do everything without complaining and arguing, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. **Philippians 2:14-15 NLT**

... He has heard all your complaints against him. What have we done? Yes, your complaints are against the LORD, not against us.” **Exodus 16:8 NLT**

## 2. What should we do?

- **If you can change your circumstances, do something about it**
- **If you can’t change your circumstances, change your perspective**

<sup>17</sup> But I will rejoice even if I lose my life, pouring it out like a liquid offering to God, just like your faithful service is an offering to God. And I want all of you to share that joy.

<sup>18</sup> Yes, you should rejoice, and I will share your joy.

**Philippians 2:17-18 NLT**

## 3. How can we change?

- **See the good that God is doing**
- **See that Jesus is at the center of the story**

<sup>2</sup> Let all that I am praise the LORD; may I never forget the good things he does for me. <sup>3</sup> He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. <sup>4</sup> He redeems me from death and crowns me with love and tender mercies. <sup>5</sup> He fills my life with good things.

**Psalms 103:2-5 NLT**

<sup>12</sup> And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News. <sup>13</sup> For everyone here, including the whole palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ.

**Philippians 1:12-13 NLT**

## Next Steps:

- Re-read today’s Bible verses this week
- Commit to stop complaining by changing my focus and perspective when faced with negative situations
- In my top area of complaining, I thank God for working: \_\_\_\_\_
- Commit to attend the rest of this series
- \_\_\_\_\_