

FOR CONVERSATION:



CHOOSING SHINING OVER WHINING

Philippians 2:12-30

In our passage today, Paul instructs us to "do everything without grumbling or arguing." Instead of complaining, Paul called us to shine like stars against the darkness of our world. So, how do we increasingly shine instead of whine?

1. How do we know that God is working in us? (2:12-13)
2. Describe Paul's instructions regarding how we should go about working for God and with each other. What reasons did he give? What part does joy play? (2:14-18)
3. Can we casually and briefly think about these things, or is our constant attention needed? Why? (2:16)
4. Read 2:19-30 and discuss what lifted up Paul.
5. Why did Paul select Timothy and Epaphroditus rather than someone else to send to the church at Philippi? How can we aspire to be like them?
6. Is it possible to shine for Christ and be uplifting to others while perpetually grumbling, or are these attitudes mutually exclusive?
7. Discuss practical ways we all can encourage each other to be shining examples of what Christ offers to a lost world.

1) By _____ what God is working in. Vs 12-13

2) By _____ instead of grumbling down. Vs 14-18.

3) By _____ instead of putting down. Vs 19-30.



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