

V. _____ A POSITIVE TESTIMONY (2:15-16)

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light” Ephesians 5:8

“14 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:14-16

“2 You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men;

3 clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.”

II Corinthians 3:2-3

VI. _____ AND _____ JOYFULLY (2:17-30)

“4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,

5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” I Peter 2:4-5

“23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,

24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”

Colossians 3:23-24

“Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

“You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” II Timothy 2:3

JOY NEGATIVITY KILLER DECLARATION

“I choose joy today in obedience!!”



“REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS AND AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE!” - PHILIPPIANS 4:4

Conquering Complaining

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INTRODUCTION

- A. Have you lost your joy in a negative world? Joy is a negativity killer!! God is the source of true joy. No matter what challenges you face or even suffer, He will provide extreme joy in your life!

“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!”

Philippians 4:4

Joy is an outward reflection of gladness because of an inward connection with God.

- B. The book of Philippians is my favorite book of the Bible because it is a:

1. _____ Book – It tells a lot about the apostle Paul.
2. _____ Book – It deals with relevant issues.
3. _____ Book – It tells how to choose joy.

The word joy in some form appears _____ times in this book. Paul wrote this book from a prison cell.

- C. In this series, we will look to God’s Word to see how you can unleash your joy in different areas of your life.

Oct 7	Building Greater Relationships
Oct 14	Making Sense Of Suffering
Oct 21	Finding Purpose
Oct 28	Reducing Conflict With Others
TODAY	Conquering Complaining
Nov 11	I Hate Religion!
Nov 18	Reaching Your Potential
Nov 25	Living Right In A Wrong World
Dec 2	Help, I’m Stressed
Dec 9	Experiencing Satisfaction
Dec 16	Generosity Matters

- D. **Text:** Philippians 2:12-30 (Pew Bible/Page 203/New Test.)

HOW TO CONQUER COMPLAINING

I. _____ THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST (2:12a)

“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.”

I Peter 2:21

“3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.

5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.”
Isaiah 53:3-7

“looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”
Hebrews 12:2

II. _____ YOUR SALVATION (2:12b)

“8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”
Ephesians 2:8-10

“Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

James 2:17

III. _____ GOD’S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE (2:13)

“in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
I Thessalonians 5:18

“These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts;...”
Jude 16a

“1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

2 “Arise and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will cause you to hear My words.”

3 Then I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was, making something at the wheel.

4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make.

5 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

6 “O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?” says the LORD. “Look, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel!”
Jeremiah 18:1-6

IV. _____ THE WORD OF GOD (2:14)

MEMORY VERSE

“Do all things without complaining and disputing,”

Philippians 2:14

“26 Nevertheless you would not go up, but rebelled against the command of the LORD your God;

27 and you complained in your tents, and said, ‘Because the LORD hates us, He has brought us out of the land of Egypt to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us.

28 Where can we go up? Our brethren have discouraged our hearts, saying, “The people are greater and taller than we; the cities are great and fortified up to heaven; moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakim there.”’

29 “Then I said to you, ‘Do not be terrified, or afraid of them.

30 The LORD your God, who goes before you, He will fight for you, according to all He did for you in Egypt before your eyes,

31 and in the wilderness where you saw how the LORD your God carried you, as a man carries his son, in all the way that you went

until you came to this place.’

32 Yet, for all that, you did not believe the LORD your God,”

Deuteronomy 1:26-32