

Peculiar Children
Philippians 2:14-16

Worship while you work ...

- I. Joyful Appreciation
 - A. A Peculiar Disposition
 - B. Stands Out in a Twisted Crowd
- II. Of What You Have
 - A. Life in Christ
 - B. Riches Now
 - C. An Inheritance Forever
- III. Witnesses to the World
 - A. In Light of Grace
 - B. Lights in the Darkness

... and hold fast.

Children, Listen ...

1. What does God think about grumbling and complaining?
2. What is the opposite of grumbling and complaining?
3. How does know Jesus help people to be content in the challenges of life?
4. How would you describe the joy of the Lord?
5. When God's people are thankful to God and are happy to serve Him, what message does that send to people who don't believe?

Luminous Joy

I have a friend that reminds me often of the important part true joy plays in a Christian's witness to the unbelievers. He makes a great point: why would anyone want to listen to us or want what we have if there is no evidence of joy in our life? Life in Christ is a joy, not a burden, unless we make it one. While my friend has never quoted our text in our conversations, his convicting proposal is a close companion to it. If we have the joy of the Lord we have peace with God, trust in His sovereign providence, AND we know that we have heavenly riches beyond all this earth can afford. If that doesn't temper our propensity toward grumbling and complaining about our lot in life, what will? Isn't it striking that the simple absence of something as negative as discontent can testify to our contentment in Christ in a profound way? When we grasp the true beauty of our salvation in Christ and live it out we serve as peculiarly bright lights in a dark, twisted and perverse generation.