



The Dangers of Grumbling – Message 1

Announcements



Our small groups have started praying daily for the highly anticipated Spiritual Emphasis Series called *Born For This*. Join 1,000 individuals for 1 minute a day until Jan 15th! Email prayer@churchoftheking.com to receive daily emails with scripture and a prayer point.

Step Three – Dream Team // Sunday, November 20th at 12:45pm// LCC Annex, SSC Offices and GCC. You will be guided through a discovery of your gifts and purpose in life and have the opportunity to connect the Ministry Leader of the areas(s) of ministry you are interested in serving. Register at ChurchoftheKing.com/register.

Warm-up

What is your food you love to share with others and why?

Do you find yourself grumbling, complaining, or frequently comparing yourself to others? These are habits and attitudes that can leave us disheartened and dissatisfied with life. We begin a new series called *For All You've Done*, a message series about discovering the life-changing power of a grateful heart. When we pause to acknowledge God *for all he's done for us*, our peace is restored and we begin to overcome the negative emotions that cause us to be discouraged.

Word and Application

Gratitude is one way we can worship God through our heart, attitude and actions. Gratitude is powerful tool that draws us closer to Jesus. Conversely, ingratitude can be a destructive force in our lives.

Read: James 1:17 & 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

As believers, our gratitude overflows because of the blessings we receive as children of God. A thankful heart is a defining characteristic of a godly person throughout the Bible. Anytime we don't appreciate what the Lord has given us, we are displaying ingratitude to the Lord God, our Creator. Share a time where you were ungrateful for what later you realized was a blessing from God.

Ungrateful Mindsets

1. I want it NOW!
2. I deserve MORE!

Although our society lives by these mindsets, why do you think these two mindsets can jeopardize our closeness with the Lord?

Being ungrateful is actually a sin that began in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve decided what God gave them wasn't good enough. When they felt entitled, they crossed the line and disobeyed God. Why does God see entitlement as an attitudinal sin?

The opposite of entitlement is the *attitude of gratitude*. The nation of Israel had a long history of grumbling and complaining. Some people don't think it's a sin, but the truth is that it hinders our relationship with God and others, and it eats away at our soul. We are called to live optimistic, positive, grateful, and life giving.

Three Common Complaints

1. Complaints about Provision: *The Children of Israel questioned God's provision.*

Read Numbers 11:1, 4-6, 19-20, 32-33 & Psalm 139:2,4. The Israelites had been in slavery for 430 years. God delivers them out of Egypt and they start grumbling and complaining not long after. Because of their attitude, their journey that should have taken about 12 days took 40 years! God doesn't put up with complaining. It reveals the heart. How did God discipline the Israelites when they complained about His provision for them? Name one thing that you grumbled about this week that someone else would be grateful to have.

2. Complaints of Comparison: *The Children of Israel questioned God's plan.*

Read Numbers 12:1-2 and Galatians 5:15.

What do you think is the motivation behind the behavior displayed in these passages? According to Numbers chapter 20, Miriam and Aaron never entered the Promised Land because of their grumbling and complaining. In essence, they missed their destiny due to their own ingratitude and comparison.

Read Romans 12:15. What is to be our response when others succeed or prosper? Describe a time where you thought God had forgotten you because someone else appeared to be doing better, but looking back you see God was working on your behalf.

3. Complaints of Unbelief: *The Children of Israel questioned God's Promise.*

Read: Numbers 13:30-33. The Israelites doubted God's faithfulness and promises in life. As a result, an entire generation missed out on the promise laid before them. Through their sin and loss, we learn that *attitude is a choice*. Moreover *being grateful is a choice*. We can choose to live with abundant gratitude or we can live steeped in entitlement and complaints. What are some practical ways we can battle unbelief in the midst of God's promises? Share an area in your life where God wants you to be grateful despite the difficulty. Why is it important to be grateful and have faith in the midst of uncertainty?

This week take a moment to write a card, send a text or call a couple of people who have blessed you over the years.

Prayer

Close in prayer by thanking God for everything He is doing behind the scenes for our good that we may not be aware of and for the promise that He has prepared all we need in the future for us. Pray for specific needs of the group.