



Scriptures for further study

Exodus 16:8 | Isaiah 60:1-3 | Matthew 5:14-16

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Philippians 2:12-16

*14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.*

1. What does Paul mean by “all things” in verse 14? Do you enjoy being in the company of people who grumble and dispute? Why or why not? How does grumbling and disputing prevent believers from becoming “blameless and innocent”?
2. How does the habit of complaining inhibit our witness for Christ? What are the fears and stressors that war against our faith and lead us to complain? What steps can you take to reduce fear and stress? Where do you need God to help you in these areas?
3. What are some practical ways we can implement more thanksgiving into our lives to combat the tendency to complain? How might this impact our relationships with others? Who is watching and listening to you when you complain? What example would you rather set for them?
4. What are the characteristics of a crooked and twisted generation? How are followers of Christ to be different? What does “shine as lights” and “holding fast to the word of life” tell you about how followers of Christ should live in this world?
5. When believers become discouraged in the advancement of the gospel and feel like they are running and laboring in vain, what does God’s Word say to encourage them? Philippians 3:12-14.
6. What if, for one month, you asked nothing from the church or complained in any way but committed two hours a week to serve someone else instead. How do you think this would stretch and challenge you? How is this commitment being a shining light in the world?