

# How God Builds Positive People

## Being A Community of Hope In A Despairing World - Part 2 of 8

“Do everything without complaining or arguing so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation in which you shine like stars in the universe.”  
Philippians 2:14-15

### FOUR TYPES OF COMPLAINERS:

• The \_\_\_\_\_.

Biblical Example:

Favorite phrase: “*It’s not fair.*”

“Have I been wasting my time? Why take all the trouble to be pure? All I get out of it is trouble and woe.”  
Psalm 77:13 (Living Bible)

• The \_\_\_\_\_.

Biblical Example:

Favorite phrase: “*No one ever appreciates me.*”

“Moses said to the Lord, ‘Why pick on me, to give me the burden of a people like this? Are they *my* children? Am I their father? Is that why you have given me the job of nursing them along like babies until we get to the land you promised their ancestors? Where am I supposed to get meat for all these people? For they weep to me saying, ‘Give us meat!’ I can’t carry this nation by myself! The load is far too heavy! If you are going to treat me like this, please kill me right now; it will be a kindness! Let me out of this impossible situation!’”  
Numbers 11:11-15

• The \_\_\_\_\_.

Biblical Example:

Favorite phrase: “*Nothing will ever change.*”

“Life is useless, all useless. You spend your life working and what do you have to show for it? Generations come and generations go, but the world stays just the same. What has happened before will happen again. What has been done before will be done again.”  
Ecclesiastes 1:2-4,9 (GN)

• The \_\_\_\_\_.

Biblical Example:

Favorite phrase: “*Is that the best you can do?*”

Elijah: “‘It’s too much, LORD,’ he prayed. ‘I have always served you—you alone. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you...I am the only one left—and they are trying to kill me!’”  
1 Kings 19:4,10 (GN)

God: “‘Incidentally, there are 7,000 men in Israel who have never bowed to Baal nor kissed him!’”  
1 Kings 19:18 (LB)

### FIVE WAYS TO CONQUER COMPLAINING:

1. Admit it’s a problem \_\_\_\_\_.

“A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance.”  
Proverbs 28:13

2. Accept responsibility for \_\_\_\_\_.

“Some people ruin themselves by their own stupid actions and then blame the LORD.”  
Proverbs 19:3 (Good News)

“Don’t point your finger at someone else and try to pass the blame to him!”  
Hosea 4:4a (Living Bible)

“A man’s own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the Lord.”  
Proverbs 19:3 (NIV)

3. Develop the attitude of \_\_\_\_\_.

“Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”  
1 Thessalonians 5:18

“...Always be thankful.”  
Colossians 3:15 (NCV)

“I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.”  
Philippians 4:11

“Knowing what lies ahead for you, you won’t become bored with being a Christian nor become spiritually dull and indifferent, but you will be anxious to follow the example of those who receive all that God has promised them because of their strong faith and patience.”  
Hebrews 6:12 (LB)

4. Look for God’s hand in \_\_\_\_\_.

“This small and temporary trouble we suffer will bring us a tremendous and eternal glory much greater than the trouble. For we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts for ever.”  
2 Corinthians 4:17-18

5. Practice speaking \_\_\_\_\_.

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”  
Ephesians 4:29

“A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.”  
Proverbs 25:11

“The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.”  
Proverbs 15:4