**Being The Squeaky Wheel**

**Reading - Philippians 2:10-20**

Murmuring shows a lack of faith. Some people count their many blessings, then complain that there aren't more of them. ***(Psalms 106:24-25) Then they despised the pleasant land; They did not believe His word, {25} But complained in their tents, And did not heed the voice of the LORD.***

***(Numbers 11:1) Now when the people complained, it displeased the LORD; for the LORD heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of the LORD burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.***

***"Neither murmur as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer" (1 Corinthians 10:10).***

Murmuring shows a lack of gratitude. God had miraculously taken care of Israel during their wilderness wanderings, yet they constantly complained. ***"There is nothing at all except this manna before our eyes!" (Numbers 11:6).***

***"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits" (Psalm 103:2).***

***(Psalms 34:1) I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.***

***(Ephesians 5:20) giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,***

Murmuring shows a lack of joy. ***(Numbers 14:1-4) So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. {2} And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness! {3} "Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?" {4} So they said to one another, "Let us select a leader and return to Egypt."***

Murmuring also shows a lack of responsibility. Consider the report of the 10 spies. ***(Numbers 13:31-33) But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." {32} And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. {33} "There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight…***

**the remedy is to Do All Things cheerfully**

***(Luke 17:5-10) And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." {6} So the Lord said, "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. {7} "And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'? {8} "But will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink'? {9} "Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not. {10} "So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.'"***

A truly strong faith clings to the Lord's promises and relies on His faithfulness when things are not going so well. ***(1 Peter 2:19-23) For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. {20} For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. {21} For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: {22} "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; {23} who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;***

We are to shine as lights ***"in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation" (Philippians 2:15).*** Can we effectively do that by being a complainer?

***Daniel 12:3*** ***"But the wise will shine like the brightness of the heavenly expanse."***

***"And those bringing many to righteousness will be like the stars forever and ever."***