



## Am I A Constant Complainer?

Do you know anyone who just complains about everything? It seems like they cannot be happy if they are not complaining. In a world filled with frustrations, disappointments, and delays, complaining seems to come naturally. We complain when things don't go the way we planned, when other people disappoint us, when stuck in traffic, and on and on we go. Certainly, as a Christian, I should learn to stop—but how? Do I bite my tongue? Do I suppress my emotions? Do I pretend nothing is going on around me?

Throughout scripture, we read of people complaining. In Exodus 16, not long after God had delivered the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage, the Israelites were unhappy because they did not have as much to eat as they desired. To such an exaggerated point that they said, ***“Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for You have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger”*** (Exodus 16.3). After seeing the plagues sent against Egypt, the parting of the Red Sea, the drowning of Pharaoh's army, bitter water made sweet—they still did not trust God to provide. Their persistent complaining led to a forty-year delay in entering the Promise Land. Even Miriam and Aaron complained against Moses resulting in Miriam being struck with leprosy for seven days (Numbers 12.10-15).

The New Testament shifts the focus from external circumstances to internal transformation. The apostle Paul said, ***“Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among who you shine as lights in the world”*** (Philippians 2.14, 15). Paul links complaining to having blemished hearts in the sight of God. James said, ***“Do not grumble against one another, brothers...the Judge is standing at the door”*** (James 5.9). Complaining damages our relationships with one another and will eventually bring about judgment.

Why do we complain? Complaining often stems from discontentment—we focus on the things we do not have instead of being thankful for what we do. It may be because we think we deserve better, forgetting God gives us what we have. Complaining arises from being impatient because we have become a people who want instant gratification. So, how do I stop? Practice gratitude! Paul said, ***“Give thanks in all circumstances”*** (1 Thessalonians 5.18). Trust God! Again, Paul said to the Christians at Philippi, ***“My God will supply all your needs”*** (Philippians 4.19). Watch our tongues! The Proverb writer said, ***“Death and life are in the power of the tongue”*** (Proverbs 18.21). Let us choose words that build up, not tear down.

Learning not to complain is not about suppressing emotions—it's about transforming our hearts. When I catch myself complaining, let me cry out with David, ***“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me”*** (Psalm 51.10). If I will walk after God, He says, ***“I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you”*** (Ezekiel 36.26). Can I stop complaining, transform my heart, and let the evidence of God living in me shine forth?

Gary



# Suffering Alone

## Lamentations 1.1-4

- 1) Have you ever endured great suffering?
- 2) Have you ever sat with someone in deep sorrow?
- 3) In the book of Lamentations, Jeremiah lamented over the destruction of the city of Jerusalem.

### Jerusalem Suffered...

#### I) \_\_\_\_\_ (Lamentations 1.1).

- A) The city suffered \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - 1) The city, once the spiritual and political heart of Judah, had fallen.
    - (a) Jerusalem before and after the destruction are contrasted (1.1-4).
    - (b) What happened? (1.8)
  - 2) Jerusalem's loneliness is more than being solitary or forsaken.
- B) Have you ever been devastated by \_\_\_\_\_ ?
  - 1) Sin can leave you all \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - 2) Will you \_\_\_\_\_ from it? Or \_\_\_\_\_ alone?

#### II) In \_\_\_\_\_ .

- A) Jerusalem suffered in great agony.
  - 1) Everyone \_\_\_\_\_ .
    - (a) The \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 4).
    - (b) The \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8).
    - (c) The \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 11).
    - (d) The \_\_\_\_\_ who heard it (vv. 21, 22).
  - 2) The city groaned with no relief in sight.
- B) Overcoming agony begins not with the absence of \_\_\_\_\_ , but with the presence of \_\_\_\_\_ .

#### III) Through \_\_\_\_\_ .

- A) Jerusalem had no one to \_\_\_\_\_ her (Lam. 1.2, 9, 16, 17, 21).
  - 1) When a person loses someone dear to them, it is to be expected that people will come to comfort them.
  - 2) Jerusalem was totally \_\_\_\_\_ (1.7).
  - 3) Have you ever felt that kind of \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- B) Is there someone to \_\_\_\_\_ you?
  - 1) Our God is the God of all comfort (2 Corinthians 1.3).
  - 2) God will comfort \_\_\_\_\_ (Isaiah 40.1, 2).
  - 3) Isaiah prophesied that \_\_\_\_\_ to comfort His people (Isaiah 40.3).

**Conclusion:** Will you let God comfort you?

# CONNECTION

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Good morning WH family! It's hard to believe, but fall is almost here. We have been blessed with a relatively mild summer and hopefully are coming into a beautiful and colorful fall season.

Don't forget our Ice Cream party tonight after services, I wonder how many dips of ice cream you could put on one waffle cone??? Make plans to be there and let's find out!

We are starting a new activity for men that I would like to announce. On Thursday mornings, we will be having a Men's Breakfast at the IHop Restaurant, 2105 S. Cherry Ln. in White Settlement at 7am – 8:30 or so. Stay as long as you can, but feel free to leave when you need to.

This is at a time early enough where if you are working, maybe you could join us and go to work just a little bit later, but not too early that some of our ~~older, more experienced~~, less scheduled, men couldn't come. I know that it would be impossible to have a time or place that would work for and please everyone. You may not be able or desire to attend every one, but please drop in on one when you can. We can visit, catch up with one another, "pontificate" and solve the world's problems, come up with solutions for the Rangers, and I would bet even some good ideas for Jerry to get the Cowboys turned around.

Our ladies are doing a wonderful job in connecting in so many ways that we are looking to our men to come together more often and grow closer socially and spiritually. Men, be watching for and thinking of ways that we come do that in the coming months.

I hope to see you tonight for our ice cream fellowship and the men at our Men's Breakfasts – You'll be blessed!

-- Les Keele



  
**Ladies'**  
 Come to Ladies' Night  
 September 22 for an evening of  
 laughter and fun!  
 Watch the bulletin for more details or  
 see Jennifer Scott!

Join us for an Ice Cream Social after the  
 Sunday evening service on  
 September 14th. Please  
 bring your favorite ice  
 cream to share. Sign up  
 in the foyer. For  
 more details, see  
 Steve Taylor



## SHEPHERDS

Greg Ball	214-801-7375
*Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
Dan Kille	817-793-7493
Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
Tom Pauley	817- 370-5515
Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

\*Shepherd of the month

## MINISTERS

Gary Williams: <i>Pulpit Minister</i>	662-321-3208
Les Keele: <i>Associate Minister</i>	817-808-0566
James Bowie: <i>Youth Minister</i>	817-944-4492

## LAOTIAN MINISTRY

John Boudtaroth	817-891-2132
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## DEACONS

Jon Bartee	817-889-2686
David Birdow	972-310-1143
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Zach Brookshire	817-296-9918
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

## MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

**Welcome** - Garner

**Song Leader** - Matt Sloan

**Song** - To God Be The Glory

**Song** - New Song

**Song** - Great Are You, Lord

**Opening Prayer** - Joe Gentry

**Scripture** - Lamentations 1.1-4

**Song** - Lamb Of God

**Lord's Supper** - Chuck King

**Prayer for Contribution** - Chuck King

**Song** - Sing To Me Of Heaven

**Suffering Alone** - Gary Williams

**Song** - Mighty To Save

**Announcements** - Les Keele

**Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal** - Greg Ball

Our Code for Tithe.ly

**Giving**



QR Code for

**Attendance**



**Attended Nursery:** After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years and a mother's nursing room.

Single-side in-ear mono earbuds with personal receivers are available for those with hearing difficulties. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for assistance.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

### Monday, September 15

Hosea 3-6; Romans 10

### Tuesday, September 16

Hosea 7; Romans 11; Psalm 145

### Wednesday, September 17

Hosea 8-11; Romans 12

### Thursday, September 18

Hosea 12-14; Romans 13;

### Friday, September 19

Zechariah 1-4; Romans 14

### Saturday, September 20

Zechariah 5-8; Romans 15

### Sunday, September 21

Zechariah 9-11; Romans 16

### Last Week

Bible Class	146	Wednesday	102
Worship	259	Contribution	\$ 11,800.42
PM Worship	43	Budget	\$ 14,216.88

### Times of Assemblies

Bible Class:	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM