

Prayer

Your Life Group, and all of the others meeting this week, are the prayer meetings of our church. How cool is that!
Please spend time praying for each other and our church.

Pray for opportunities to share the hope of Christ with others.

Each other:

Church

- *Volunteers for youth ministry and children's ministry*
- *Pastors, Staff and Leadership*
- *Stampede and Round Up*
- *God to provide the financial resources we need.*
- *Life Groups meeting around the area this week*



Grumbling

Bob Kennedy February 26, 2017

Getting Started

Ok, we all complain. What is the one area that is easiest for you to complain about? (Costco lines, peoples driving...you get the idea)

Walking Through the Text. Read Philippians 2:12-16

Jesus was obedient in the previous hymn. The church in Philippi has been obedient. Paul urges them onward in obedience by writing, "continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling." What does that mean? What doesn't that mean?

We can't understand this passage without understanding the Exodus story. Take some time and revisit the story in Exodus. Put yourself in the story. Imagine that you are in captivity and are unable to be free, but then God literally shows up and delivers you. What must have that felt like?

Read Exodus 14:29-31. *What was the response of Israel to God literally showing up and saving them with a display of absolute power over the things that oppressed them?*

But as little as three days later, their response changed. They grumbled against God and against Moses. They do it all the time after their deliverance. How is Israel's grumbling the opposite of obedience?

We live in a parallel situation. We live as the people of God in the New Exodus. God has saved us. He has brought us through the waters of baptism. He has given us his Spirit to be with us as we journey together through the wilderness of the world. Awaiting the day when He leads us into the promised land of His Kingdom. We need to learn from Israel's story in the Exodus. What do we need to learn from them? What do we need to get right this time?

Why will we shine like stars by not grumbling and arguing in our life together?

Application

Gratitude is the cure of grumbling, and comprehension is the cure for complaining. Take a moment and comprehend your salvation. Realize everything about it (the cost, that it is a gift, that you are free). Then spend time giving thanks to God.

Who can you encourage this week? How can you use your words to build up someone in our church community this week?