Don't Complain About It, Get It Right! (Heart Vs Habit part 9)

(Final Version) Pastor Jim Lowe III Sunday Morning, 9:30am Stream 04/28/24 (4th Sunday Message)

hashtags:	
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#givingthanks	#hearinggod
#hearing	#voiceofGod
#faith	#whatdoesGodsay
#forgiveness	#Godworks
#savedtoserve #overflow	
#protector	#Expectation
#worry	#Favor
#deliverance	#listeningears
#Godspeaks	#blessings
#servingGod	#heartafterGod
#treasure	#complaining
#God'speace	

{All scriptures are "NIV84" unless stated}

Message Title: **"Don't Complain About It, Get It Right!"** (Heart Vs Habit part 9)"

Proverbs 18:21

21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

The things we say can help us...or harm us.

Especially when it comes to how well we can complain about things in life.

Matthew 12:36-37

36 But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for <u>every careless</u> <u>word they have spoken</u>. 37 For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

Proverbs 29:11

11 A fool gives *full vent* to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.

Where Does Our Venting Come From?1. Another Person (at work, home, church...)

2. A Situation (house, car, finances...)

These things cause us trouble...

But the Lord wants us to be at peace!

The Lord Wants Peace! Especially With His People!

First we have to remember that God IS peace!

Isaiah 9:6

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, <u>Prince of</u> <u>Peace</u>.

The Lord desires for us to have peace in life!

John 16:33a I have told you these things to that in me you may have <u>peace</u>.

Luke 2:14

14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth <u>peace</u> to men on whom his favor rests."

This same peace God has set aside for us.

When Times Get Frustrating, Remind Yourself That God Wants You To Be At Peace!

The things in life we complain/vent/grumble about...

These things STEAL our peace!

How Do We Deal With The Things That Bother Us? **1. If It Is Another Person (at work, home, church)**

We've talked about this in small groups the past few weeks.

The one thing we ALL know...

and probably ALL hate.

Matthew 18:15

15 "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over."

The word tells us we should have a conversation with those who have offended us.

The REASON we have to go to one another is God desires the restoration of peace.

He wants peace within you.

he wants peace within them...

he wants peace BETWEEN you two.

We may not want to talk to them about it.

but if we can't stop talking to others about it...

we need to go get our peace back.

Don't Let Someone Else Get In The Way Of You Receiving Your Peace! Talk It Out!

It says go and "show him his fault."

he might not even know!

One of the worst things is to be upset with someone and they don't even know why...

The Point Of Addressing Our Offenses Should Always Be Peace!

Matthew 18:15

15 "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over."

And by "showing the fault."

Sometimes we develop whole stories in our heads about someone else.

THOSE things can be the things that rob us of our peace.

But what if they aren't even true???

THIS is why you talk it out.

Why?

Offenses can be subjective.

this means they're based on personal opinion

not necessarily on facts.

How did you "feel" when something happened?

If it was another day...another time...

could you have "felt" different if someone else said it?

Those things are misunderstandings...

What's a Misunderstanding example?

What if someone heard wrong?

you said your tire is "getting flat"

they swear you said they're "getting fat"

it's a misunderstanding!

When You Talk Out Offenses, Allow For "Misunderstandings". By Allowing For Misunderstandings, You Can Come To Understandings!

The point is to be at peace!

Genesis 13 talks about how Abram and Lot had to separate.

What happened?

Genesis 12:1

The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

The Lord told Abram to leave EVERYTHING and go where he told him.

Genesis 12:4a

4 So Abram left, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Abram took Lot with him.

This creates a problem later.

Genesis 13:2

2 Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.

The Lord told Abram he would bless him...

Abram was walking in that blessing!

Genesis 13:5-7a

5 Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. 6 But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. 7 And quarreling arose between Abram's herdsmen and the herdsmen of Lot.

There was quarreling between Abram's people and Lot's.

There was not enough land for both of them and their belongings.

not enough food/water.

So the groups begin to fight.

Genesis 13:8-9

8 So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and mine, for we are brothers. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

Abram WENT to Lot.

let's not fight between US.

Someone has to say something!

If not...peace would not be restored!

Do Whatever It Takes To Get Your Peace Back!

Hebrews 12:14-15

14 Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. 15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

We have to control it before it gets OUT of control!

Proverbs 17:14 (AMP)

14 The beginning of strife is as when water first trickles [from a crack in a dam]; therefore stop contention before it becomes worse and quarreling breaks out.

Take control of what's keeping your peace!

It may not be easy...but we have to get it back! **Romans 14:19**

19 Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

For the sake of you...

for the sake of them...

find peace between you all.

The word has shown us that complaining and venting about it is a sin multiple ways around.

James 5:9

9 <u>Don't grumble against each other</u>, brothers, or <u>you will be judged</u>. The Judge is standing at the door!

Don't grumble...complain...vent...stop talking negatively about one another to others!

Proverbs 6:16-19

16 There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, 18 a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, 19 a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.

All of these weeks of talking about it come to this:

Don't Complain About It, Get It Right!

Psalm 34:14

Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

The convos may not be easy...but sometimes it's just US needing to make the first step.

Some Conversations Should Be Had So That Peace Can Be Found!

Remember the Lord wants peace...

for you...for them...for you BOTH!

Psalm 133:1

1 How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!

#2

How Do We Deal With The Things That Bother Us?A Situation (house, car, finances...)

This one is difficult...

it puts the focus of our frustrations on life in general.

we don't want to be where we are.

"something is always breaking at the house"

"something is always wrong with the car."

"I'm always underwater with my finances."

These are hard...

We already know the Lord doesn't like complainers...

Israel did it their entire journey to the promised land...

instead of doing what THEY did...

John 16:33

... there is peace in the middle of our trials.

On our worst days there's peace there if we can find it.

We have to remember that the Lord will lead us to it.

The Lord Will Either Remove Our Trials Or Give Us Peace Through Them!

Psalm 23 talks about going where the Lord leads us.

Psalm 23:1-2

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

Who is leading?

The Lord is my shepherd...

he makes me lie down in green pastures.

how did we get there?

The Lord led!

He LEADS me beside quiet waters...

Verse 3-4

3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

He GUIDES me in paths of righteousness...

v4.a Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death... How did we get here?

The Lord led!

Every Road Will Have Bumps In It But Always Remember You Are Never Traveling Alone!

Trust that the Lord will lead you. Don't fear evil...

don't let it take your peace...

because if God is leading you...

he is RIGHT there with you!

It's not easy...

But His peace is available!

If you need a change...take it to God!

Philippians 4:6-7

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

{in closing:}

The tongue has the power of life and death.

Matthew 12:36-37

36 But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for <u>every careless</u> <u>word they have spoken</u>. 37 For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

This means...let's stop talking about it.

Let's stop giving ourselves reasons to be angry with us in the future.

{don't let your future you hate you!}

Let's stop talking...and start doing!

If it's a person...

if you can't stop grumbling/venting/complaining about it to others...

go talk to them so you can get your peace back.

if it's something in our lives...

if you can't stop grumbling/venting/complaining about it to others...

take it to God.

Get your peace back!

2 Corinthians 13:11

11 Finally, brothers, good-by. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, <u>live in</u> <u>peace</u>. And the God of love and peace will be with you.