

1.) CONTAINING OUR COMPLAINING

The "Zip It!" Series

14 Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15 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)

I. OUR WORDS REVEAL THE CONDITION OF OUR HEART

34 ...For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. 35 The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. 36 But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. 37 For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." (Matthew 12:34-37)

- From a negative HEART overflows negative WORDS which generally become negative ACTIONS resulting in a miserable LIFE.

It is better to live alone in the desert than with a crabby, complaining wife. (Proverbs 21:19 NLT)

A nagging spouse is like the drip, drip, drip of a leaky faucet; (Proverbs 27:15 MSG)

A. If you are constantly complaining, ask yourself, "What is in my heart?"

II. SAME EVENTS BUT DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

- A. The same old manna: Numbers 11:1-6
- B. The expensive perfume: Matthew 26:8-10
- C. The overwhelmed host: Luke 10:38-42
- D. The worshipping prisoners: Acts 16:25-34

III. MAKING SOME POSITIVE PROMISES

A. I will not hang out with NEGATIVE people.

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." (1 Corinthians 15:33)

B. I will speak words of LIFE and not DEATH.

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit. (Proverbs 18:21)

C. I will be THANKFUL for what I have.

*...give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
(1 Thessalonians 5:18)*