



Welcome back Lockdown Lookouts...

How did you get on seeking to serve other people, like Jesus served us? I found it hard. But I was helped to keep going know Jesus had loved me enough to do that for me.

But that doesn't mean everything is easily in here - there are the scratchy mattresses, the mice, the jobs we have to do, the damp, the... Sorry - don't get me started! But I am wondering if my grumbling is quite right. The Apostle Paul is still writing away and there is another thing I am bothered about.

Can you help me understand the next part of his letter to the Philippians?

Yours

Jail Bird Joe

Opening Prayer

'Dear Heavenly Father, help us to know you better as we read from the Bible now, and to love Jesus more. Amen.'

Challenge

Torch treasure hunt

Hide objects around the room, and then let the children in to see the room for a minute before turning the lights off. Let them try and find the objects in the dark. How hard was it?

Now do it again, but this time give them a torch to find the objects. Why was it easier?

It was easier the second time because the objects shone out in the torch's light. They stood out from the darkness.

Today, we are going to see what the Apostle Paul says we are to be like - stars shining out in the dark.

Read Philippians 2:12-

12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed - not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence - continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfil his good purpose.

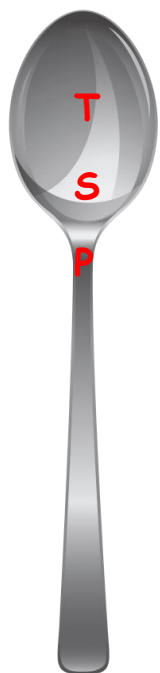
14 Do everything without grumbling or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, 'children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.' Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky 16 as you hold firmly to the word of life.

Chat it through

- What do you find it easy to grumble and moan about? Why do you think we grumble and moan?
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- **Having being saved by Jesus to be God's friends again, what are Christians to do? (v12)**
 - They are called to live out the salvation Jesus has given them, seeking to obey God and careful to please him. Working out their salvation is different to working for it.
- **But who is at work in Jesus' followers to help them to do this? (v13)**
 - Amazingly, God is at work in the follower of Jesus to help them change, and live Jesus' way. He is helping them keep following Jesus! Christians 'work out', but God 'works in'.
- **What is one way that God is changing Jesus' followers? (v14)**
 - Changing them from moaners to those who trust God with their circumstances. Giving thanks rather than complaining all the time!
- **How is it hard to do everything without complaining?**
 - That can be very hard - so we do need God working in us to help us!
- **What will living this way make us like? (v15-16)**
 - It will make us stand out from the people around us - like shining stars in the night sky stand out. It will draw people to want to follow Jesus too as they see God is changing us!
- **What is one thing you often moan about which you could seek God's help to change in?**

Pray it through

Today we are going to pray through the areas where we find it hard not to moan and complain!



Thank you - Thank your Father for... (think of something about the thing you moan about to give thanks for. The best way to fit moaning, is to give thanks!)

Sorry - Sorry Father that I... (seek Jesus' forgiveness for how you have grumbled about the thing in the past)

Please - Please Father help me to...(ask for God's help to not keep moaning about that thing, and to trust him when you find it hard)

NOW un pause the video on YouTube to continue...

Craft

Click [here](#) to find two worksheets - a complaining heart and a thankful heart to complete together. If you can't print them out, just draw them on a piece of paper. You can also find how to make a Miss Radiant Joy and a Mr Grouchy Pants puppet!

There are also helpful memory verse cards here to help us remember these verses!

Or get a piece of black paper and some yellow paint. Cut a potato in half, and carve a star shape in the end. Use the potato to make star prints on the black paper. Write the memory verse on the poster

'Do everything without grumbling or arguing...then you will shine among them like stars in the sky' Philippians 2:12, 14-15