

Philippians 2:14

Do everything without complaining and arguing.

When you read today's devotional verse, you were probably reluctant to read on. I know I would be. I mean come on, how many people do we know that seem to constantly complain, complain, complain. If you think about it, we are complaining about those who complain, so we are not that different from those who do complain.

Then there are those who like to argue about anything and everything, even if they are totally wrong, they will argue that the sky is not really blue but green, and that grass is really blue and not green. Both of these are probably those certain people that are on social media, usually complaining or arguing about politics, or about something else they read on social media or that is in the news. But then again, we have all complained and argued, maybe not as frequent as those we are thinking about. But still, we do. But notice Paul's word to the church in Philippi: "**Do everything without complaining and arguing.**" (underlined for emphasis)

How less stressful our lives would be if we chose not to complain. *I wish I got paid more, I hate my car, I hate my neighbors, I don't like how they sing that song in church. Waa, waa waa. Poor me.* Or even arguing with someone, or even your spouse. "*We don't argue, we discuss.*" Discussing and arguing are two different things. Discussion is taking on all the combined facts (yours and the other person's) and together, coming up with the right conclusion. Arguing is refusing to hear what someone else is saying and trying to prove yourself right and him or her WRONG!!! Grrrrrrr

Jesus never argued with anyone. The Pharisees tried to argue with Jesus

† **Mark 8:11 (NLT2)** *When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had arrived, they came and started to argue with him. Testing him, they demanded that he show them a miraculous sign from heaven to prove his authority.*

But Jesus' response was not to argue back, but to tell them the truth (Discussion)

† **Mark 8:12 (NLT2)** *When he heard this, he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "**Why do these people keep demanding a miraculous sign? I tell you the truth, I will not give this generation any such sign.**" (underlined for emphasis)*

This week let's see if we can go the rest of the week and the weekend without arguing or complaining, not just verbally but on social media as well.

† **Psalm 19:14** *Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.*