

**“Corrosive Talk - Complaining & Criticizing”**

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Philippians 2:14-15

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**Introduction:**

- A. I have chosen to call complaining and criticizing “corrosive talk” because we all understand the way \_\_\_\_\_ works.
  - 1. Corrosive words \_\_\_\_\_ our spiritual life and our relationships.
- B. All we have to do to destroy our relationship with God and with others, and destroy our life in general, is to give ourselves over to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Corrosive speech has a variety of \_\_\_\_\_.

**I. What the Bible Says**

- A. The Bible is clear that this kind of talk is not to be coming from the mouths of God’s people (Phil. 2:14-15; Proverbs 21:9, 19; 22:10; 26:21; 27:15; 1 Tim. 3:3).
- B. Nowhere in Scripture is complaining and criticizing more graphically depicted than in the case of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (Numbers 13-14).
- C. Complaining and criticizing:
  - 1. Ignores \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Leads to wrong \_\_\_\_\_ and bad \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3. Leads to \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 4. Leads to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 5. Breeds \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 6. Results in God’s \_\_\_\_\_.

**II. How to Stop Complaining and Criticizing**

- A. Be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. We need to make sure our \_\_\_\_\_ are in line with what is realistic.
- B. Be \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thess. 5:18).
  - 1. The main cause of complaining and criticizing is a focusing on the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Just as we can always find something to complain about or be critical of, so can we always find something for which to be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3. Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ causes us to forget God’s presence, deliverance and provision and leads to corrosive speech.
- C. Be \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. Rather than speaking words of complaint and criticism, we need to speak with \_\_\_\_\_ expectation.
- D. Be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. The easiest thing in the world is to complain and criticize, but God calls us to be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. When we don’t complain and criticize like others, then people take \_\_\_\_\_ that there is something different about us.
  - 3. In order for us to be different, we are going to have to do two things:
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_ First
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_ Less

**Answer Key:** Intro.A. acid. A.1. destroy. B. complaining, criticizing. C. roots. I.B. children, Israel. I.C.1. God’s, potential. I.C.2. conclusions, judgments. I.C.3. self, pity. I.C.4. fear. I.C.5. rebellion. I.C.6. judgment. II.A. Realistic. II.A.1. expectations. II.B. Grateful. II.B.1. negative. II.B.2. grateful. II.B.3. amnesia. II.C. Forward, Looking. II.C.1. positive. II.D. different. II.D1. different. II.D.2. notice. II.D.3.a. Think. II.D.3.b. Talk.