

January 19, 2024

The Lord wants you to live in His light.

Phil. 2:14-16a *Do everything without grumbling or arguing, 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 as you hold firmly to the word of life.* (NIV)

The Greek word used here for grumbling or arguing is *gogguzo* which means to murmur, grumble or confer with others to persuade. It seems that most people murmur and grumble when they don't like what is going on. It is because most people see things from a human perspective. But, when we are 'in Christ,' we see things from His perspective. James reminds us in **James 1:2-4** *Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.* (NIV) Paul then exhorts believers by reminding them that we live in a 'messed up' world. A world that doesn't have the light of Christ. We are to shine because we have Him in our lives. **John 8:12** *When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”* (NIV)

This is the light we are to hold out to this generation. They need to know that He is the way, the truth and the life and that no one can come to the Father except through Him. As the old chorus reminds us, let others see Jesus in you.

Dear LORD, You are our shining light. Help us to be reflections of that light to our neighbors, or families, our churches and our nation. In Jesus Name, Amen