

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

August 18

2024

Do Not Grumble Against One Another

To “grumble against another” can simply be defined as “to complain about someone in an annoyed way.” Sadly, there are some brethren who have a sour, discontented, and envious attitude, who are always grumbling about fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. However, such grumbling ought not to be so, for James clearly instructs, “*Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned*” (James 5:9).

You see, when it comes to complaining and griping about fellow Christians, James, inspired by the Holy Spirit, says, **DO NOT GRUMBLE AGAINST ONE ANOTHER**. Remember that, my beloved brethren, the next time a brother or sister in Christ does something in a way that you may not have done it, and instead of complaining about it, kindly give preference to one another (Ref. Romans 12:10, Philippians 2:3-4). Also, remember not to grumble against one another when a brother or sister in Christ does something to offend you, and instead of complaining and griping about them to others, do what Jesus said to do, go to them, and tell them their fault between you and them

alone (Matthew 18:15). Likewise, remember to not grumble against one another when a brother or sister in Christ is prospering and you are not, or when a brother or sister is being honored by others when you are not, but instead, rejoice with them (Ref. Romans 12:15; 1 Corinthians 12:26).

Brethren, it has been said that grumbling against one another is the offspring of pride, and many who often grumble against others, are typically those who always think their way is the right way, and because of that, they always have to have things done the way that they see it fit to be done, and when it is not, they become discontented and unhappy, which usually results in grumbling about someone. However, may we never forget, pride is an abomination to God (Proverbs 16:5), and when pride comes, then comes shame (Proverbs 11:2).

Therefore, may we all put away pride (Ref. Proverbs 8:13), and let go of bitter envy and self-seeking in our hearts (Ref. James 3:14-16), knowing that this type of attitude is not only the root cause of grumbling against one another, but that it is also contrary to what God would have his children to be (Ref. James 4:6-10, 5:9; 1 Peter 4:8), and those who fail to abstain from complaining about one another will be condemned.

So, once more, my beloved brethren, **DO NOT GRUMBLE AGAINST ONE ANOTHER!**

✍️ Brad Phillips

Encourage One Another

“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing” (1 Thess. 5:11, ESV).

A divine instruction given to every single Christian is that we are to give encouragement to our fellow brethren; that we are to strengthen one another in the faith of Jesus Christ; and if we are presently doing so, then we are to continue to do so. And here’s the thing... EVERYONE is in need of encouragement. We all need to receive it, AND we must be actively giving it to others. This was such an outstanding quality in our first century brother Josep that the apostles changed his name to Barnabas, meaning “son of encouragement/consolation/comfort” (Acts 4:36). In other words, in 1 Thessalonians 5:11, the apostle Paul is calling upon every disciple of Christ to be a son or daughter of encouragement to their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

Since every child of God experiences temptations, trials, sickness, death, disappointments, discouragements, and weariness, we all are in need of regular, genuine encouragement. Let us encourage our older members - those who are faithful in coming but often in pain; widows and widowers; our shut-ins. Let us encourage those who are married to non-Christians or divorced but remain faithful to the Lord. Let us encourage those who battle chronic illnesses and diseases. Let us encourage our Bible class teachers. Let us encourage our children and young people to put God first in their lives. Let us encourage elders, deacons, preachers (and their spouses) as they serve. Let us encourage younger men to be preparing themselves to be elders and deacons. Let us encourage those we know who are presently struggling with discouragement. And finally, as our brother Barnabas did, let us encourage all of our brethren “that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord” (Acts 11:23).

Jesse A. Flowers

God’s Plan of Salvation

Hear the word of God. (Romans 10:17)

Believe in Jesus Christ. (John 8:24)

Repent of your sins. (Acts 17:30)

Confess Jesus Christ. (Romans 10:9-10)

Be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)

Remain faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek” (Romans 1:16).

Belleville church of Christ

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

Website: www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

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