

## SHINE LIKE THE STARS IN THE SKY

Philippians 2:12-16; Selected Scriptures

We have received too much from God to allow ourselves opportunities for unbelief. We have received too many gifts and privileges to allow a grumbling, murmuring heart to disqualify us of our destiny. In contrast, the thankful heart sees the best part of every situation. It sees problems and weaknesses as opportunities, struggles as refining tools, and sinners as saints in progress.

-Francis Frangipane

### Paul's important challenge (Philippians 2:12-13)

Paul gave them a reminder not a reprimand.

In regard to their salvation,

They can work it out because God is working in them.

### Yet they face a challenging roadblock

(Philippians 2:14; Psalm 106:24-27; James 5:9)

The challenge of grumbling is that it is both pervasive and invasive.

Grumblers are like crocs in a river – there's danger under the water but all you can see are the eyes and the nostrils.

Arguing focuses on winning; conversation focuses on collaboration and problem-solving.

### The incredible payoff (Philippians 2:14-16; Ephesians 3:10)

You might become

- Blameless and pure
- Children of God without fault
- Shining stars in the sky

Reaching our goal, we will stand out in our generation because our lips will be sprinkled with...

- Loving (and sometimes confrontational) honesty
- Positivity and contentment
- Grace and gratitude