The Proclaimer

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I heard an old story about a monk who joined a monastery taking a vow of silence. After the first 10 years his superior called him into his office and told him he could say two words. The monk replied, "Food bad." After another 10 years the monk again had opportunity to voice his thoughts. He said, "Bed hard." Another 10 years went by and again he was called in before his superior. When asked if he had anything to say, he responded, "I quit." "It doesn't surprise me a bit," said his superior, "You've done nothing but complain ever since you got here."

We have the tendency to complain at different times in our lives, don't we? And sometimes we choose to voice our complaints over anything else that is happening, even over blessings that God is giving to us. Complaints can tend to cast a long shadow over our lives, much like an ominous storm cloud can block out the sun sending that darkness across the farmland here in Central Oregon. It can become an underlying current in way we live if we don't take those complaints somewhere.

Throughout Scripture we can see many different people complain to God. Moses complains to God about the Israelites and their lack faith. David complains to God about how oppressive Saul is. Job complains about the terrible circumstances that have happened to him. Jonah complains about the Ninevites. I don't think complaining to God is necessarily a bad thing, but I think it's crucial in what we do after the "initial" complaint.

In the lives of each of these men; Moses, David, Job, and Jonah they all move through their complaints with prayer, listening, and understanding that God is intimately involved in their circumstances. They do not stay within the "complaint", instead they make their position in life known to God, and then they allow God to help move them through their problem. Here's a quick example: In Psalm 102 it starts like this, "Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry come to you! Do not hide your face from me in the day of my distress! Incline your ear to me; answer me speedily in the day when I call! For my days pass away like smoke, and my bones burn like a furnace. My heart is struck down like grass and has withered; I forget to eat my bread."

These are desperate words, and it is a very clear complaint to God. But the Psalmist doesn't stop here. He ends up saying this toward the end of the Psalm, "For the Lord builds up Zion; he appears in his glory; he regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer. Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord: that he looked down from his holy height; from heaven the Lord looked at the earth, to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die, that they may declare in Zion the name of the Lord, and in Jerusalem his praise, when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the Lord."

There is also a profound difference in complaining <u>ABOUT</u> God and complaining <u>TO</u> God. When you complain about God, you are stiffening your neck against God and questioning his character. Complaining to God shows that we realize who God is and we come to Him and pour out our hearts before him, and then we trust him to act and to work—maybe by resolving the situation or by giving us the grace to stand amidst the difficulty. As Christians who are suffering, we should be diving into God instead of retreating from God, asking him questions and believing that he is sufficient to answer them and deal with our needs. We should do this without complaining about God.

Pastor Jadon



Twin Rocks Friends Camp Schedule

Girls Camp (for girls entering 4th-6th grades in fall 2016)	July 2-7
Boys Camp (for boys entering 4th-6th grades in fall 2016)	July 16-21
Tween Camp (for youth entering 7th-9th grades in fall 2016)	July 9-15
Yearly Meeting	July 23-27
Surfside (for youth completing 8th-12th grades in spring of 2016)	
Family Camp Labor Day Weekend	September 1-4
Men's Retreat	September 15-17
Women's Retreat	mber 29-October 1
www.twinrocks.org	
Brochures with registration forms can be picked up at th	ne church.

Metolius Friends All Church Campout July 28-30 at Walton Lake



Children ages 4 years through 5th grade 💦 will be engaging in fun activities during the entire Worship Service. They will be doing a scavenger hunt, having root R

beer floats and enjoying lots of exciting games.



Friday, April 7

Volunteers come at 3:00pm. Registration at 4:00pm. Food Delivery at 4:30pm.



It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.



The Office will be closed for Memorial Day, May 29th.

1st - Curt Drahn 3rd - Dennis Hardman **Emily Leeper** 5th - Dan Quinn 11th - Chantel Howard 15th - Jeff Morse 23rd - Katy Meredith 24th - Jim Hutchins 25th - Chuck Alexander 30th - John Chavez





2nd - Ed ♦ Sharon Macy 4th - Dennis & Mona Hardman 10th - Dave and Norma Bergstrom 15th - Matt & Hally Moore 17th - George & Gamin Snyder 22nd - Don ∉ Elaine Henderson Richard & Terry Macy

Ramblings by the Minister of Children's Programming



I love what I call believing moments. As I look back I have had many a believing moment in my life, some more important than others. Believing moments give me confidence and trust. An example of a practical believing moment is when I discovered what works to catch a fish. Right

bait, right spot and right time works every time (well to be honest almost every time).

I would like to share a significant believing moment that lead to my encounter with Christ. It started on a back packing trip to a lake with several Evangelical Athesist. They were in awe of their

surroundings, as I was too. They related how this all came about with a big bang and millions and millions of years. I, too, was in awe of the star filled night, the beauty of the surroundings, and the complex flora and fauna. At this moment, I had a believing moment, a belief that something this complex just didn't happen, there was someone or something behind all this. I was brave enough to pose the question that somehow this was created by a power beyond us. This met with a bit of chuckling and that this just happened.

This believing moment opened the door for me to question who was behind all this. It was a few years later and a quest for help raising two children and the responsibilities of marriage that I knew I needed more than just me.

It was at Clackamas Park Friends Church that I heard about God and Jesus Christ and that this God the creator of all things wanted a relationship with me and wanted to be my friend. That was my believing moment in Jesus Christ. There has been and continues to be believing moments in my faith in God.

The reason I bring this up is I am excited to see believing moments in the face of our children, moments when the stories we tell them from the Bible become believing moments. You can see it on their faces, the excitement in their eyes. Share a believing moment with a child, with a neighbor, or a friend. Isn't that what we are called to do? Sharing Christ with the world.

I will finish with something the disciples said to Jesus after spending years learning and observing Him.

John 16:29-31 "Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God."

day.

"Do you now believe?" Jesus replied.

Can we say to Jesus, we believe You came from God?

Dayton





Turn around and believe that the good news that we are loved is better than we ever dared hope, and that to believe in that good news, to live out of it and toward it, to be in love with that good news, is of all glad things in this world the gladdest thing of all.

-Frederick Buechner, The Clowr	n in	the	Belfry
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Alight and a second s	2 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's	3 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	5 4:30 pm Food Delivery 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	6 9:00 am Church Work Day
7 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 10:45 am Kids Fun Day 5:30 pm Youth Group 5:30 pm Youth Group Fun Day !	8	9 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's	10 5:45 pm Elder Ministry Team Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	12 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	13 9:00 am Follow-up Work Day
14 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group	15	16 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's	17 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Steward Ministry Team Meeting	18 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen 7:00 pm Christian Ed Ministry Team Meeting	19 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	20
21 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship HS Graduate Recognition 5:30 pm Youth Group	22	23 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's	24 5:45 pm Elder Ministry Team Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	26 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	27
28 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group	29 The Office Is Closed	30 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's	31 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	The on the	winter is past. The flowe earth; the time of singin Song of Solomon 2:11-12	rs appear g has come.