

DON'T BE A SQUEAKY HINGE

SCRIPTURE:

Do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain. (Philippians 2:14-16)

MATERIALS LIST:

- (1) squeaky door hinge
- (1) can of WD-40

MAIN MESSAGE:

It is easy to get caught up in the toils of life and complain about all that we dislike. It is human nature. However, as Christians we need to remember that we have something else that the world does not have. We have a hope in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and we need to be joyful in sharing that with the world.

SONG: "This Little Light of Mine"

LESSON:

You have just gotten your crying 5-month-old daughter to go to sleep, you lay her down in her crib, and with relief that you can now go get a couple of hours of sleep. You exit the room, and it happens. "Sqquuuueeeeeaaakk". The baby of course wakes up, and there goes that precious two hours of sleep. The noise was that of a squeaking door hinge. Granted, it isn't a fingernails-raking-across-a-chalkboard kind of bad, but it is definitely displeasing to the ears.

There is something else I can tell you about the noise of a squeaky door hinge, and it is that nobody likes the sound of it. You know what else nobody likes to hear? Nobody likes to hear a person that is constantly complaining, especially a brother or sister in Christ. Neither are particularly hard to fix though.

When I hear a squeaky door hinge, there is a go-to product that comes to mind that I know will solve the problem. What is it? You know it has to be good ol' WD-40! Simply spray it directly on the door hinge and open and shut the door a few times and it will be quiet as a mouse.

With a complainer, it doesn't work quite the same way. While I would like to use the other good ol' product, duct tape, it really isn't the best way to go about it, and it really isn't me that can fix the complainer. A complainer, especially one that is a Christian, needs to examine his or her life closely to fix the squeakiness. As it says in Philippians 2:14, we are to be the lights in the world. If the world sees a Christian that is always complaining is that going to make them want to have any kind of relationship with God? We have a hope and peace in Jesus that others do not have, and we need to shine our lights and let the world know it!

PRAYER: May we always rejoice in the hope we have in Jesus and never hide it from the world!