



WOW: Word Of the Week

GOGGUSMOS (GRUMBLE)

July 16, 2025

Important Bible verses are often overlooked. Familiar texts deserve a closer look. Here is one! “Do everything without grumbling or arguing....” (Phil. 2:14). Goggusmos. Grumbling, grudges, arguments, disputes. Murmuring, complaining.

Philippians 2 talks about how we develop the mind of Christ. We study 2:1-4 a lot more than we study 2:12-16. Grumbling is a habit. The Greek word even sounds “grumbly.” Verb—gong-gudzo.

Some verses do not need much hermeneutic interpretation. Grumbling ruins influence. Grumbling tarnishes the shine. Again, grumbling is a habit. Some people are just natural grumblers. Their cup is half empty. They see the negative.

One opposite of grumbling is worship. Consider the parallels. Those who make grumbling a habit become grumblers. Those who make worship a habit become worshipers. Worship—each week with the spiritual family, during the week in smaller groups, personal, daily. Eventually we become “worshipers.” We recognize that God is God, the Lord He is God. We are his. He cares for us. We come before him with thanksgiving and praise. Because God is God, God is good. Get the order right! The great truth of Scripture is that God is God—beyond all else.

A memorable Thanksgiving season marquis: Better to be humbly grateful than grumbly hateful. There is the contrast. Will we live humbly or grumbly?

The text describes the life we seek. Blameless, innocent, God’s children, contrast community in a crooked culture, shining as lights, holding fast the word of life. Did you hear the last phrase? Now only the what—but the how! Holding fast the word of life.

That exact phrasing appears only one other time in the New Testament: 1 John 1: 1—“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—“

Holding fast to Jesus, knowing Jesus.