

Membership Covenant

The 5 G's
Groups
Giving
Gifts
Grace
Growth

A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Text for the Week: Philippians 2:12-18

Message for the Week: Work It Out

Sunday, May 26

Opening

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

When was the last time you did something you didn't like doing, "without grumbling or arguing"? What was that "something"?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [Philippians 2:12-18](#) out loud.

[Clicking the link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

The salvation that we have been gifted is so much more than just a ticket to heaven someday. Our salvation from the power of sin equips us to be Kingdom ambassadors now, building the Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

How are you continuing to work out your salvation?

What does it look like?

What does it mean to work out your salvation?

How can you work out your salvation in the world, revealing the Kingdom to a “warped and crooked generation”?

What is the difference between working for your salvation and working out your salvation?

What is sanctification? What is your role in it, if any?

What does it take to “...shine like a star/stars in the sky?”

Try It:

“Provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God.” Philippians 2:15 - The Message

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Pray this prayer together:

Dear Father, I am so prone to grumbling and complaining! Forgive me. Help me to continually work out my salvation with fear and trembling SO THAT your light shines brightly through me into this world. May I daily strive to carry Jesus in me and share Him wherever I go. AMEN

Missional/Spiritual Practice: Growth

I commit to deepen my faith in Jesus Christ through regular Scripture reading and prayer.

I commit to having and pursuing a personal rule of life (a plan for intentionally growing my relationship with Jesus Christ) and living it out in my community, my church, and His Kingdom.

Philippians 2:12-18

New International Version

2 ¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

¹⁴ Do everything without grumbling or arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.”^[a] Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain. ¹⁷ But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. ¹⁸ So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.

Footnotes

- a. [Philippians 2:15](#) Deut. 32:5

The Message

2 ¹²⁻¹³ What I’m getting at, friends, is that you should simply keep on doing what you’ve done from the beginning. When I was living among you, you lived in responsive obedience. Now that I’m separated from you, keep it up. Better yet, redouble your efforts. Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is *God’s* energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure.

¹⁴⁻¹⁶ Do everything readily and cheerfully—no bickering, no second-guessing allowed! Go out into the world uncorrupted, a breath of fresh air in this squalid and polluted society. Provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God. Carry the light-giving Message into the night so I’ll have good cause to be proud of you on the day that Christ returns. You’ll be living proof that I didn’t go to all this work for nothing.

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ Even if I am executed here and now, I’ll rejoice in being an element in the offering of your faith that you make on Christ’s altar, a part of your rejoicing. But turnabout’s fair play—you must join me in *my* rejoicing. Whatever you do, don’t feel sorry for me.