

WORK IT OUT!

Pursuing Jesus / Discovering His Joy

Philippians, #8

February 24–25, 2024 // Sermon Study Guide // Pastor Mark Henry, D.D.

Text: Philippians 2:12–13

Truth Points: What truth was covered this weekend in the message?

1. What is the command of the Holy Spirit in Philippians 2:12? How do we do it according to the context of Philippians 2:1–11?
2. Why is this one of the most misquoted verses in the Bible? How is it often paired with James 2:14–26? Is there a good response in these two cases that reflects the doctrine of justification by faith? What is the difference between the gift of salvation and working for salvation?
3. How does fear and trembling come into play in this context? What are the six motives in scripture to obey God? List them and give some examples.
4. Read Genesis 22. How did Abraham fear God?
5. Is God passive in our sanctification? What do we learn in 2:13 about God, His work, and His ambition?
6. Read John 15:1–5. How does this reinforce our dependence on God in serving Him or being like Him in all godliness?

Reflection Points: How does God want me to think, feel, act, and speak because of this truth?

1. Am I working for my salvation? Have I earned it yet? At what point do I know for sure that I have earned my salvation by works?
2. Do I have the gift of everlasting life? When I talk to others about Jesus, do they hear about my goodness or Jesus' goodness? His righteousness or my righteousness?
3. What is motivating me to obey Jesus? When was the last time I thought about my motivation? Should I? Why or why not?
4. Am I working out my salvation as God commands? How would I know? What would others say? Do I have the enemies that prove I am working out my salvation?

Action Points: What am I going to do **this week** because of this truth?

1. **Read** Philippians 2:14–18 for next week.
2. **Reflect** on Philippians 2:12–13 every day.
3. **Ask** yourself three questions every day:
 - Am I working out my salvation by thinking and caring for others before myself?
 - What is motivating me today to obey God?
 - Am I dependent on Jesus to work in me and through me today or am I going it alone?
4. **Share** with another follower of Jesus what you are learning about God, the Bible, Jesus, etc. Help them follow Jesus better in 2024.