

Applying It In My LifeGroup time - 20 minutes

1. Paul begins this section by highlighting God's work in us – the Holy Spirit who indwells us and guides us each day; and the Word of God that instructs us. How can we rely on God to help us with our daily activities? Does the fact that Paul tells us to do all things without grumbling or complaining mean that we cannot ever voice concerns, complaints or frustrations? Why, or why not?
2. What is our role in God's Kingdom work? How do we appear as "lights in the world"? How can we "shine like stars" in the dark and morally depraved world we find ourselves living in without coming across as "holier than thou" to those who aren't disciples of Jesus?
3. What kind of balance are you trying to bring into your own personal life between "working out" your Christian life, and allowing God "to will and to work" in you? What are some of the ways that you personally are still working out your salvation? What steps of growth would you like to take to continue your sanctification?

Prayer TimeGroup time - 15 minutes

Praise God for His work in you – for His indwelling Spirit and the Word of Life. Thank God that He is at work completing your salvation as a child of God. Ask God to keep you from complaining or grumbling as so many around us do. Ask God to help you to be light in a dark world and to give you a willingness to offer your life in Kingdom service.

Finish your prayer time by praying for the needs of those in your *Growth Group*. Take a few minutes to share prayer requests. Ask someone in the group to record your prayers so you can see in future weeks where God is answering those prayers.

THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING

Gospel Humility Shines

Work Out Your Salvation

Philippians 2:12-13

- This important principle BUILDS on grace – it doesn't replace grace.
- Obeying God means we are to put our salvation to WORK.

Do Everything Without Complaint

Philippians 2:14-18

- Be committed to KNOW and to LIVE life by God's Word.
- Paul regarded his own life as a SACRIFICE.

Co-Workers In the Faith

Philippians 2:19-30

- Together with Paul, they SERVED Christ for the furtherance of the gospel.
- God calls each of us to COMMITTED and faithful service in His Kingdom work.

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of October 20-25, 2014

Getting Started.....Group time - 15 minutes

1. Describe some of the chores you did around the house as a teenager or the first job you had as a teenager. Were you satisfied with your efforts? Were your parents and/or employers pleased with your work? When they were not satisfied with your work, how did they let you know this? How did you respond to their assessment?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting Into God's Word.....Group time - 40 minutes

Read Philippians 2:12-18 (In preparation to answer questions)

1. In verse 12, Paul writes "work out your salvation with fear and trembling." What does this mean? Salvation has many aspects. What kind of salvation was Paul referring to here? What is the difference between working out your salvation and working for your salvation? How is this an important distinction?

2. In verse 13, what are the two things that God works in believers? How is God working in us related to working out our salvation? There is often a debate that rages in the church and in us personally between works and grace. What special message do these verses contribute to this debate?

3. Why were those in the Philippian church who were grumbling discontent? Who is their complaint directed at? How might the grumbling and questioning keep this church from shining as God's light to the unbelievers in Philippi?

THE
CENTER OF
EVERYTHING

4. What imagery did Paul use in this passage? What does it mean to "shine like a star"? What was Paul's point with the "drink offering" imagery? What is your reaction to the imagery Paul uses here? What is the importance of firmly holding to the Word of God to both our salvation and our witness?

Read Philippians 2:19-30

5. Paul addresses how the Philippians should respond to adversity. What attitude does Paul insist on? Paul seems to view his potential death as a sacrifice for the sake of God's ministry. How were Paul's brothers and co-workers important to the furtherance of the gospel ministry?