

Week 8 – Philippians 2:12-30

^{12a}Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – ^{12b}continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

¹⁴Do everything without complaining or arguing, ¹⁵so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe ¹⁶as you hold out the word of life – in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing. ¹⁷But 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. ¹⁸So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.

1. What did Paul expect from his dear friends in Philippi? Was that a reasonable expectation?

2. What does it mean to “shine like stars”?

How do the following verses shed light (!) on this idea?

Matthew 5:14-16

2 Corinthians 4:4-6

3. In what way was Paul an example of the kind of attitude he talked about in verses 1-5?

4. Read Philippians 2:19-24. How did Timothy reflect that attitude?

Read Philippians 2:25-30. How did Epaphroditus serve as an example?

What does God's Word say?

v. 12b _____

What does God's Word mean?

What does God's Word mean to me?

v. 13 _____

v. 14 _____

v. 15 _____

What is God telling you? How will you respond?