

Disciples Church

Joy in Sanctification <> Philippians 2:12-18

Week of June 21, 2017

**Handout Notes**

**Philippians 2:12** Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. 14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. 17 Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

1. **Command of the sanctified life:**

**Philippians 2:12** Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Salvation is a gift from God. No one can produce salvation or even the desire for salvation apart from God giving them new birth. (Romans 8:7)

God caused salvation in us and the new heart given to us in our regeneration is a heart that is able (with the Holy Spirit’s indwelling) to work out our sanctification.

It is a **joy** for God to grow you. It is God’s joy to work out His will, therefore our God enjoys growing you into Christ-likeness.

1. **The instructions for the sanctified life:**

**Philippians 2:14** Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

Look at verse 15 and see the beauty of living this way; 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.

When we live in obedience and joy, when we hold fast to the word of life, when our focus is on God and the gospel truths that delight our hearts, we prove Paul’s work to be fruitful **not only** for the church in Philippi at the time of this letter, but even now here at Disciples Church today.

1. **The joy of the sanctified life:**

**Philippians 2:17** Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Now notice that last verse in this passage, 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

I want nothing more for you than to be able to stand with Paul and say, “Even though I gave up my life being used as an instrument for your salvation it was my joy and I did not lose anything!”

**1 Cor. 7:7-8,** 7 I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another. 8 To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I am.

**1 Cor. 7:32** I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. 33 But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, 34 and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. 35 I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

**Proverbs 31:30** Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,

but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

**Conclusion:**

Family, it is not enough to believe that God can carry us to the end keeping us in the faith until the finish. We must believe this enough to actually get in the race and run. We can believe that the tight rope walker can carry a person in a wheel barrel across Niagara Falls, but will we have the faith to climb into the wheel barrel and let him do it?

If we are truly to work out our salvation, that’s what this requires. We must trust God enough to obey His commands and do so with joy. Don’t forget, we must keep our focus on Him for this faith!