

What are some specific ways that we can encourage each other along in this? (Put together some action steps as a group if it would be helpful!)

5. Pray for each other, that your perspectives would be so shaped by the coming “day of Christ” that you would be able to live boldly for the gospel in the midst of your present circumstances, whatever they might be.

Digging Deeper (for further study):

6. Consider this passage in the greater context of Philippians 2, looking specifically at the example of Christ set out in verses 5-11. How does an understanding of verses 12-13 help us to recognize how we can practically follow that example?

7. In verse 18 Paul *urges* the church to rejoice. How does this help us see that joy is something we choose to do, rather than something we merely “feel” at certain times?

How does the gospel provide the foundation from which we can “choose” joy, even in the midst of difficult circumstances?

Seeing Christ Working Through Us
Philippians 2:12-18
February 22, 2015

1. What Working Looks Like (v. 12-13)

✧ My role...

✧ God’s role...

2. The Importance of a Bright Light (v. 14-16)

✧ What I say says a lot...

✧ The high goal of purity...

✧ The low state of our surroundings...

✧ The day that matters most...

3. Choosing to Share in Christ's Joy (v. 17-18)

✧ My sacrifice for your joy...

✧ Joy: something we do together...

Message-Based Discussion Questions

1. As you reflect on the message, what was one observation, application, or insight that stood out to you?
2. Read Philippians 2:12-18, the message text for the week. Using this passage as a starting point, what are words or phrases that we could use to describe a church living in light of this calling?

In what specific ways could we strengthen our "living out" of the description given here?

3. How do verses 12-13 help us understand the work of sanctification that God is doing in our lives?

How could it be unhealthy to read either verse without the other?

In light of these verses, what does it look like for you to be growing in dependency upon Christ on a daily basis?

Practicing It Together:

4. Verses 14-18 string together a number of very practical exhortations to the body of believers, beginning with one that concerns our speech and attitudes. Why does Paul start here, and why is this so important in our own lives as Christians and as a church body?

Continuing into verse 15, can we identify some areas in our own lives in which we can intentionally provide the light of Christ into the twisted world around us?