



Gathering Time (Sermon Outline)

Gathering Notes

Date: _____

Philippians 2:12-13

_____ Our _____

Philippians 2:12-13

Our _____ Should Reflect _____.

Philippians 2:12

_____ To Grow _____.

2nd Peter 1:3-8

Philippians 2:13

We Work "Out" Because

_____ Is _____ " _____".

Lined area for gathering notes.

4G Guide Survey:

Help us serve you better. Complete this brief survey. Use the QR or click the Survey Link at cbcfamily.net/4G.



Workout, Salvation / Mirror, Jesus / Strive, Spiritually / God, Working In



Group Time

◀◀◀ **LOOK BACK:**

1. Each participant shares one praise and one prayer request. (Commit these to prayer for the coming week.)

2. ENCOURAGEMENT 1-on-1 (See last page for directions)

Y / N	Y / N	_____
_____	_____	

3. Review last week's lesson.



What did you do to show humility in strength this past week?



LOOK UP:

Question: Thomas Edison is famously quoted as saying, "Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration." (A 2 to 98 ratio is also an acceptable quote.)

How might that compare with this quote from a local talent? "Life is 100% showing up – without it, you don't get any other percent."

1. Review your notes from the Gathering Time (Sermon).
2. **Context:** As we continue in Philippians 2, we come to verses 12 & 13 and the slightly controversial issue of "work." Why is it controversial? Because it's joined with the word "salvation." Churches have split and denominations have been formed due to this issue. But it's not that hard. When we are saved, it is by God's work alone. Yes, we are free to decide, but it's not through our effort or physical work by which we are saved, it is through Jesus (Roman 6:23). Because of our decision, we can be adopted into God's family. But here's the thing about God's family, there is family business to do, and everyone is expected to work in the family business. You're expected to show up – 100%.

3. Discussion:

Read Philippians 2:12.

Therefore, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed, so now, not only in my presence but even more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

- What was the first step that led to this "work out?" (Hint: It's that uncomfortable "o" word.)
- What is the attitude we are expected to have as we "work out?" (Hint: The churchy-word is "reverence.")
- Give some practical examples of this "work out."

Read Philippians 2:13.

For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose.

- Who is driving this "work?" Where is the "inspiration" coming from?
- Who needs to do the "work?" Where is the "perspiration" coming from?
- Who needs to show up?



LOOK FORWARD: Application

Point: *You can only work out what God is working in.*

- What is one thing you can stop or start doing this week to be obedient to God's work in you?

- What is one thing you can stop or start doing this week to make yourself more available to God's will and good purpose?

WEEK EIGHT: PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13

God Time Day 1: Joy



Read Ephesians 2:8-10.

⁸For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift — ⁹not from works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.



Circle the one word in verse 8 that tells what we are saved "by."

In verse 9, underline the word that tells what we are not saved by.

We are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, and never by works. However, once saved, there are good works that await us that bring glory to God (verse 10).

Praise Him for salvation that comes by His incredible grace! Then seek out those works prepared for us to do.

God Time Day 2: "Work Out Your Own Salvation"



Read Philippians 2:12-13.

¹²Therefore, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed, so now, not only in my presence but even more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ¹³For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose.

At first glance, it may seem like the passage above contradicts the passage from Day 1. However, that is not the case; they are different in the original language. We are never saved by works! (Reread the verse from Day 1.)

Underline the words, "work out." These words mean "put it to work" or "to work something down to the conclusion."

Who is doing this work? (v. 13) _____



Pray this prayer as we look into this more this week:

"God, thank you for working in me, your child who you've given salvation! Help me to respond to you in obedience and with reverence!"

God Time Day 3: Reflecting Jesus



While the words "work out" in Philippians 2 don't literally mean "workout" like we might say today regarding exercising, it's still a pretty good analogy! We could also easily substitute it with "live out," "cultivate," or "put it to work" to help us understand the meaning even better.

When we "work out" our salvation, we are demonstrating through our outward actions and attitudes what God has done and is doing inside us. It becomes a growing tapestry of our salvation story. (For more info on sharing your salvation story go to vimeo.com/419998882.)



Look back at Philippians 2:12-13 from Day 2. Circle the words "fear and trembling."

These words indicate reverence. Reverence means that we are to live out our salvation in humble submission to our almighty and powerful God! While we don't need to be afraid of Him, we need to have a healthy respect for who He is and what He can do.

What a privilege it is that God has invited us to "work out" our salvation through demonstrating Christ in us to others. Our obedience shows that we are His. And this is why we need the attitude of Christ. It is to bring Him glory! (See Week 7, Days 3 and 4.)



Read 2 Corinthians 3:18.

We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit.

As we might look in a mirror to check our form when doing an exercise, we hope to see Jesus reflected in the mirror as we do the works He has planned for us.

Seriously evaluate yourself. How are you at reflecting Jesus?

(The fruit of the Spirit is a good place to look for attributes of God's character. See Galatians 5:22-23.) While we can't be perfect, we can cultivate godliness by obeying and submitting to God.

God Time Day 4: Strive for Spiritual Growth



Read 2 Peter 1:3-8. ³His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴By these he has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire. ⁵For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, ⁶knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, ⁷godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.



We cannot gain spiritual growth simply because we decide to. We can't produce our own spiritual fruit. What we can do, however, is make every effort to live a godly life of obedience. This is called biblical wisdom! When we live this way, we position ourselves for God to do the work (or growth) He wants to do. It's a little like this: We are sailboats lifting our sails, ready for God to steer us with His wind wherever He wants us to go.

Underline what God has given us in verse 3.



Circle "glory and goodness" in verse 3 and "by these" in verse 4.

Put a box around what we "may share in." (Verse 4)

God gives us everything we need for life and godliness, and He calls us by His glory and goodness to share in His nature and be fruitful for Christ.



Make a list of the "supplements" from verses 5-7 that you would like to develop. Save your list for tomorrow.

God Time Day 5: God Works In Us



When it comes to spiritual growth (the churchy word is sanctification), some of us tend to be works-focused, believing we only grow through hard work. Others are more grace focused, thinking that there is nothing we can do but sit back and let God do it all. The reality is that, as we learned on Day 4, it is God who works in us. We set our sails in position so God can steer us. We do the positioning, and He does the growing. It's a partnership. God works and we cooperate. As Henry Blackaby would say, "Find where God is working and join Him."



Reread 2 Peter 1:8 from Day 4. ⁸For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Reread Philippians 2:12-13.

¹²Therefore, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed, so now, not only in my presence but even more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ¹³For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose.

Do you see the partnership? What are you doing to actively cooperate, or join, with God? (E.g., I obey, worship, serve, give, etc.)



Look at your list from yesterday. What will you do to position yourself and pursue God's growth in these areas?

Praise God for all the joy He brings as He works fruitfulness in you for His good purpose!

Family Time



Main Idea:
Spiritual Growth

**Key Verse: Matthew 6:33**

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.

Talk about it:

When you become a Christian, your life changes. While the changes are not physical and usually do not include a complete overhaul of your God-given personality, you are different and because of that, your life is different.



Circle the statements you believe are true.

1. God is everywhere at all times.
2. God has the power to do anything.
3. God is real, the one true God.
4. God hears me when I pray.
5. God wants me to know Him.

Did you circle all of the statements? They are all true.

Think about your best friend. What are some things you and your best friend like to do together?

**Discussion:**

Best friends know each other well. They know each other's likes and dislikes. When you take time to get to know someone, it is easier to understand who he/she is and what they enjoy doing. That's the same with God. The more you know Him, the more you know what He wants you to do.

Through Bible verses and stories, God helps you know Him. As you read and study the Bible, you learn how He created the world, how He cares for people, and how He sent Jesus to earth. God loved the people in the Bible, and God loves you too.

As we get to know God better it will lead us to grow spiritually.

**Pray:**

Dear God, thank you for your Word. Help us to learn who you are and grow in you as we study the Bible. Speak to us as individuals and as a family. Amen.

