

Joy in Christ
Letting God Work in You
Philippians 2:12-18

1. God wants our obedience as He continues to work in us.

Philippians 2 ¹² Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Ephesians 2 ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

John 6 ³⁷ All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

James 2 ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

2. God expects us to live our lives without contention.

Philippians 2 ¹⁴ Do everything without grumbling or arguing.

James 5 ⁹ Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

3. God desires that we would be the lights in the world.

Philippians 2 ¹⁵ Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.

Matthew 5 ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

4. God implores us to rejoice together in our faith.

Philippians 2 ¹⁷ But 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. ¹⁸ So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.

Romans 12 ¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

1 Thessalonians 5 ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.