

Date: October 19, 2025

Series: Philippians: Triumphant, Tenacious, Battle-Tested JOY!

Title: "Joyful Obedience: Working Out What God Works In"

Text: Philippians 2:12-13



"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, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure." (*Philippians 2:12-13*)

I. Christ's obedience is both the ("therefore") grounds and pattern of our own.
(*Philippians 2:3-8*)

- We do not work to be accepted, but because we are accepted through Christ's perfect life.
- We are called to an obedience of faith. (*Hebrews 11:6; John 3:36*)

II. Believers are commanded to bear fruit in keeping with God's redemptive purposes.
(*Philippians 2:12*)

A. "Working Out" is a faith-driven Spirit-empowered process.

Scriptures: *Philippians 1:6; Galatians 3:2; Romans 10:17*

B. Working "With Fear and Trembling" properly credits God with the mighty works of salvation AND sanctification.

III. The Word & the Holy Spirit work in us to accomplish God's purposes in salvation.
(*Philippians 2:13*)

A. God Works His Will and His Power into us.

Scriptures: *Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:13*

B. God works in us and through us for His "Good Pleasure"

Scripture: *John 15:11*

Conclusion: "Working out" our salvation looks like humble submission to God that is fundamentally an act of faith made visible through our service to one another.

Questions for Consideration & Application:

1. How has your own view of obedience evolved, and in what specific area of your life does obedience still feel most like a "heavy chore"?
2. In what practical ways can you cooperate with the divine transforming work that is occurring inside you by adopting the mind of Christ this week?
3. Where in your Christian journey do you feel you are purposely pressing on in faith, and where do you feel you've become complacent?
4. How can you cultivate a greater sense of awe for the magnitude of the work God is doing in you, and how might this change your daily actions?
5. Can you identify a recent desire for holiness (the "will") or an action you took for God (the "work") that you believe was empowered by the Holy Spirit?
6. What action of humble submission towards is currently the most difficult for you, and what aspect of God's character (love, forgiveness, provision) do you need to trust more deeply to enable that action?
7. What is one practical, everyday area (at home, work, or in your community) where you can intentionally cooperate with God's work this week to bring Him delight and experience a fuller sense of His joy?