

# “What We’re Made For”

Philippians 2:12-18 - Pastor Bruce French

## GETTING JOY

1. Joy comes through divine partnerships. Phil. 1:4-5
2. Joy comes through loving without walls. Phil. 1:9
3. Joy comes through seeing problems as possibilities. Phil. 1:18
4. Joy comes through an assurance of a secure future. Phil. 1:21
5. Joy comes through a God-honoring conduct. Phil. 1:27
6. Joy comes through loving relationships. Phil. 2:3-4
7. Joy comes through humble attitudes. Phil. 2:5-6

## When are we fulfilled?

1. We are fulfilled when we understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:12-13

**ASSERTION:** Unwrapping the gift results in unprecedented \_\_\_\_\_.

**ACTION:** Rejoice that you are \_\_\_\_\_.

2. We are fulfilled when we reflect the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:14-15

**ASSERTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ extinguishes contention.

**ACTION:** Rejoice that you are \_\_\_\_\_.

3. We are fulfilled when our \_\_\_\_\_ results in \_\_\_\_\_ . Phil. 2:17

**ASSERTION:** Faith without works is \_\_\_\_\_.

**ACTION:** Rejoice that you are \_\_\_\_\_.

## Take Home Truth

We are fulfilled when we \_\_\_\_\_ in God’s plan.  
Phil. 2:18b

### Today’s Core Belief:

Christian Service “I believe God gives all Christians a gift to help others and glorify Him.” (from 1 Corinthians 12:4-6)

**Today’s Action:** exercise the 3 actions every day this week.

## Deeper Connection Study

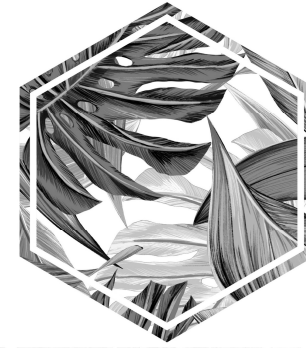
Our understanding of who we are and how we live in relation to, and with, others is based on a proper understanding of God. As Paul continues his theme of unity in humility, he challenges the church to live for God's glory.

*Today's Core Belief discussed: Christian Service.*

### Read Philippians 2:12-18

1. What does it mean "work out your salvation with fear and trembling" (v. 12)? Why does Paul say to continue doing this (cf. Matt. 7:24-27; 1 Thess. 2:13; Jas. 1:22-25)?
2. How does God work "in you" (v. 13)? What is the reason and the intended results?
3. In this sanctification process, what is God's part and what is the Christian's in relation to God's "good purpose" (v. 13)?
4. What is the importance of Paul's command in verse 14? Why is it so simple, yet difficult to practice? What outcome does Paul anticipate if we obey this command (v. 15)?
5. What correlation exists between the Christian's obedience and how their light shines (v. 15; cf. Matt. 5:16)? How is "holding out the word of life" included in this (v. 16a)?
6. How would you rate your growth as a Christian? How brightly do you shine as a light for Christ? How do these things impact or influence your spiritual community?

**PRAYER TO THE POINT:** Praise God for salvation by grace. Pray for your passion and practice in living for God's purpose and glory.



# life is good.

## Finding Joy in Tough Times

In a national study taken between 2013 and 2016, the diagnosis of depression showed an increase of 33%. Among young adults, ages 18-35 there was a 47% increase and among teens, ages 12-17 there was an astounding rise of 63%. The data in a parallel study showed a strong correlation, especially among teens and young adults, to the time spent on smart phones and social media. This information tied directly to the uncertainty and apprehension that those surveyed were feeling.

There is strong evidence that a sense of fulfillment is correlated to a person's experience of joy. Thus, it is not coincidental that Paul told the Philippians to "work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose," (2:12-13). As he was writing to a group of people who were dealing with various trials and difficulties he was inspired to help them see that their heavenly Father had a "good purpose" for their lives. In God's sovereign plan he was at work even in the undesirable things of life in order to produce fulfillment and meaning. Have you made that discovery yet?

