

Community Group Sermon Application Questions- Week of Sunday 11/10

Philippians 2:12-18: "God's Work in Us"

Central Truth: The work of God in our hearts empowers us to work for His glory. Getting this order right leads to life; getting it wrong is deadly.

Begin by reading the passage together. In this passage we see:

3 Essential Responses to God's Saving Work

--Work through His power. -Be content in a restless world. -Be glad in the struggle.

- 1) What is the difference between "working *for* your salvation" and "working *out* your salvation." Why is it so important to make this distinction? What does it look like to "work out our salvation with fear and trembling" both as individuals and together as fellow church members?
- 2) When we read verses 12 and 13 together, we see that underneath our work is God's work. How does this bring comfort to our lives as Christians?
- 3) How does the reality of God's mercy and grace to us displayed in the gospel (see passages like Phil. 2:5-11) lead us away from grumbling and complaining? What does it look like for you to maintain a joyful attitude in the face of problems in life?
- 4) Why does true contentment in Christ stand out in our selfish and restless world? How might God use our contentment in Him both to point unbelievers to the hope of the gospel as well as encourage fellow believers?
- 5) How does the reality of the future "day of Christ" (v. 16) affect how we life and strive to pursue Christ today?
- 6) In verse 17, Paul speaks of being "poured out as a drink offering on the sacrificial service of your faith". What does this image teach us about the nature of our ministry to others? What might it look like for us to live out this mindset in the church, our homes, the workplace, etc.?