

FOLLOW THROUGH

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-18

COMMUNITY GROUP

OUTLINE & SUMMARY

Introduction

Work out the changes God is making in you as you grow in grace and truth.

Verses 12-13 • Paul appeals to the Philippians to work out what God has worked in. He begins with “therefore” which links back to vs. 5-11 and the call to unity based on Jesus’ example. Paul always prefaces practice with doctrine.

In v. 12, “work” means to *implement, carry out, follow through*.

In v. 13, “works” mean enabling; we get our word “energy” from it.

“fear & trembling” means to be singularly focused.

Verses 14-18 • After describing what kind of a demeanor Jesus’ Followers ought to present to a bent and tested world, Paul shares his personal concerns in ministry with and for them.

FOR THE GROUP

Introduction

If spiritual maturity was a scale from 1 (brand new believer) to 10 (a saint), where would you be right now? In terms of your being like Jesus, what do you struggle with the most?

What does it mean when we say the Christian life is a “Therefore” life?

How does Jesus’ example in vs. 5-11 connect to vs. 12-13?

What priority does Paul place on our following through on the changes God’s Spirit is working in us?

What does Paul mean in v. 14, when he says, “Do all things without complaining and disputing”?

How are you doing *personally* with this?

What do you tend to *complain* about?

Do you “*dispute*?” Maybe not outwardly, but, do you dispute internally, in silent conversations with “*those people*?”

What’s the danger of such internal disputes? That is, what “attitude” does it tend to engender?

What ought to be our attitude toward the lost?