

Phil 2:12-30 – Obedient in Christ

Great church fights ...

So far

A problem of unity.

... Phil 1:27, live lives worthy of their citizenship in the gospel.

Phil 2:3, *“do nothing out of selfish ambition and vain conceit. Rather in humility we are to consider the needs of others above ourselves, not looking to our own interests but each of you to the interests of others”*

verse 5 ... in our relationships with one another have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

Verse 6-11 – the example of Jesus

Therefore ... keep on obeying

Phil 2:12

Who must we obey?

Work out your salvation

verse 12, *“continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling”*.

... to live out what we have already become through the gospel of Jesus

“fear and trembling”?

Romans 5:8-9. *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this while we were still sinners Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him.*

... the enormity of the task and understand the awesome greatness of the one we are working for and seeking to honour with our obedience.

You do not work alone

God is working in us and through us to bring about his work in us and the world

The Spirit and the Word of God work together.

What sort of changes should the gospel make?

1) Do not whinge or argue (verse 14)

... we should be single minded, gospel focussed, striving together, shoulder to shoulder in the work of the gospel.

What was the last thing you whinged or argued about?

Was it even an important thing to argue about or were you trying to win?

How could you have approached it in a more Christ honouring way?

2) Shine like stars (verse 15)

... gospel shaped living impacts how the non Christian world sees Jesus.

Daniel 12:3, “Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.”

1 Peter 2:10-11

3) Hold firmly to the word of life (verse 16)**Great examples (Verse 19)**

Timothy ... relationship with God affects him to his very core.

Epaphroditus ... almost died for the work of the gospel.

For us today

How are you going to stop grumbling or arguing?

How conscious are you that your obedience to the command above impacts how others see the gospel?

How are you ensuring that YOU hold firmly to what the bible says?

Qu to discuss over food:

- **Is it better to burn out than to fade away as we are driven by gospel concerns**