

## Being Lights in the World (Phil. 2:12-18)

### I. Focus on Working as God Works in You (12-13)

#### A. Continue to Obey in Humility (12)

1. Continue Working Out Your Salvation
  - a. Not just when Paul is present
    - i. True humble service when no one watches
    - ii. True humility seeks no affirmation
  - b. With Fear and Trembling
    - i. Not taking grace for granted
    - ii. Fear and Reverence for God
    - iii. Always examining ourselves and motives
2. Continue Working Out Your Salvation Together
  - a. Command is Plural not singular
    - i. Previous section displays unity
    - ii. the “working” is done in community

#### B. God Continues His Work in You (13)

1. Believer’s Work is due to God’s Work
  - a. God gives both desire (will) and effort (work)
  - b. God regenerates the heart
2. Believer’s work is for God’s good pleasure
  - a. We work for Him (not others)
  - b. He gives the desire to work for Him

### II. Focus on Your Unity Before the World (14-16a)

#### A. Keep Your Unity in Humility (14)

1. Do everything without argument or complaint
  - a. This is the opposite of humility
  - b. This is a plural command (community)

#### B. Keep Your Testimony Before the World (15a)

1. Unity in humility makes you blameless and pure
  - a. Not before God
  - b. But before the World
2. Unity in Humility makes you children without blemish
3. Unity in Humility bears Testimony
  - a. To a crooked and perverse generation
  - b. So we shine like lights in the world
  - c. So we hold forth the word of life
    - i. This is how we shine in the world

### III. Focus on the Joy of the Gospel (16b-18)

#### A. Paul’s Ministry is proven (16)

1. As Philippians are lights in the world
2. Paul’s work in them is proven

#### B. Transformation is Evidence of the Gospel

1. Paul did not labor in vain
  - a. Because Philippians hold as lights in the world
  - b. Remember – they work because God works

C. Paul's Joy in His Trials (17)

1. Paul is being poured out as an offering
2. Paul is imprisoned for the faith
3. Paul considers it nothing compared to their ministry
4. Paul rejoices with them

D. Paul Desires their Joy (18)

1. they should not despair his imprisonment
2. They should rejoice in the ministry
3. They should rejoice in Paul's suffering role as well.