

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue 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.

Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

My Good Purpose

I have a plan relating to your life, do you know what my plan is? Not exactly, no not really, I'm not sure what your plan is. **I think that we both have a very similar plan relating to your life.** I'm not sure how that could be possible since I don't know what your plan is for my life. **Let me hear what your plan is for your life?** My plan for my life is to allow you to do in and through me whatever you have in mind. I want to humbly submit myself to you so I can know and do your will. I want to allow you to mold and shape my life so that I become the person that you have planned that I will become. I want to end up doing all the good works that you have planned for me to do. **Think about what you have just said. You have basically said you want to know and do my will. That's your plan?** Yes, it is. **Well, it is my plan that you will know and do my will. We don't have similar plans. We have the exact same plans.** Yes, it seems that we do have the same plans. **That's good.**

How do you feel knowing that you and I both have the same plans for your life? I feel very good about that. **Why is that?** I have great confidence that you will help me to fulfill your plans for my life. **Yes, I will.** I feel far less confident that I will be faithful to do all that you have planned for me to do in life. So, it is very encouraging to know that you and I both want the same thing. **Why is that?** I know that you will help me to know and do your will even when I am weak, weary, worn out and even tempted to give up. You will be my strength when I might become discouraged or even depressed. **How do you know that?** You have encouraged and strengthened me every step of the way so far. **Yes, I have.** I have always been able to rely on you. **Yes, you have.**

You mentioned being weak, weary, worn out, discouraged and even depressed. Yes, I did. **Will the road ahead be easy?** I doubt it. **Will what I call you to require discipline, diligence and hard work?** I'm sure that it will. **Will you need to come to rely on me more and more as you walk with me?** Yes, I will. **Will you welcome or run away from the challenges that are ahead of you?** With your help I will welcome any and every challenge that is before me. **Why is that?** I know that you want to take me deeper with you. I know that you want to do more work in me. I know that you want to mold and shape my life even more than you have already. You want to continue to do your complete work of salvation in me until the day I meet with you in heaven. **Yes, I do.** I want that too. **We have the same goal and the same plan.** Yes, we do. **That is very good.**

Father, thank you for working in my life according to your good purpose. You have given me a passionate desire to love, follow and serve you. I want to go and do what you ask of me. I want to live a life that is pleasing to you. I welcome your work in my life. Amen

Promises*Works In You*

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue 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.

NIV

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Working In You*

Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

NLT

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Work In You*

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

NRSV

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Work In You*

Therefore, my dear ones, as you have always obeyed [my suggestions], so now, not only [with the enthusiasm you would show] in my presence but much more because I am absent, work out (cultivate, carry out to the goal, and fully complete) your own salvation with reverence and awe and trembling (self-distrust, with serious caution, tenderness of conscience, watchfulness against temptation, timidly shrinking from whatever might offend God and discredit the name of Christ). [Not in your own strength] for it is God Who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight.

AMP

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Work In You*

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

NASB

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Works In You*

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

ESV

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Works In You*

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

NKJV

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Working At*

What I'm getting at, friends, is that you should simply keep on doing what you've done from the beginning. When I was living among you, you lived in responsive obedience. Now that I'm separated from you, keep it up. Better yet, redouble your efforts. Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is God's energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure.

MSG

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Work Within You*

Dearest friends, when I was there with you, you were always so careful to follow my instructions. And now that I am away you must be even more careful to do the good things that result from being saved, obeying God with deep reverence, shrinking back from all that might displease him. For God is at work within you, helping you want to obey him, and then helping you do what he wants.

TLB

Philippians 2:12-13

Promises*Working In You*

My dear friends, you have always obeyed God when I was with you. It is even more important that you obey now while I am away from you. Keep on working to complete your salvation with fear and trembling, because God is working in you to help you want to do and be able to do what pleases him.

NCV

Philippians 2:12-13

Works In You

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Promises – Philippians 2:12-13

In Context: *Read Philippians 2*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Therefore, | my | dear friends, | as you | have always obeyed | --not only | in my presence, | but now | much more | in my absence--| continue 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. Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Father, thank you for working in my life according to your good purpose. You have given me a passionate desire to love, follow and serve you. I want to go and do what you ask of me. I want to live a life that is pleasing to you. I welcome your work in my life. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When have you found yourself being resistant to the work your Heavenly Father wanted to do in your life?

When have you discovered that the Heavenly Father’s work in your life might not always be pain free?

How has Jesus Christ given you an example of how to allow your Heavenly Father to do His work in your life?

How willingly are you allowing your Heavenly to do whatever work He needs to do in your life?

How firmly are you trusting that your Heavenly Father will work in your life according to His will and purpose?

What are some of the ways that your Heavenly Father has already been acting in your life?

How are you remaining attentive to the work that your Heavenly Father wants to do in you?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Allow God to work and act in your life according to His will and good purpose.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that God will work and act in your life according to His will and good purpose.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how God has been working and acting in your life.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you allow your Heavenly Father to work and act in your life according to His good purposes.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Heavenly Father, I will allow you to work and act in my life according to your good purposes.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Heavenly Father, how do you want to work in my life today?
