

Week 3: September 30 – October 6 “PARTICIPANT’S GUIDE”

Opening Question: What was your least favorite chore when a child?

Philippians 2:12-18

- 1) Go back and read chapter 1 verse 6. What is the similar teaching or theme that is also found in the verse 13 of chapter 2?

- 2) What do you think brings a person to a point where they want to personally engage in seeking to live a life of obedience and mature in their faith walk (“working out their salvation”)?

- 3) How would this scripture passage from Philippians have us respond to the following comment? “We saved by grace through faith therefore obedience is optional?”

- 4) How can the previous example statement be a dangerous way of thinking? How can the statement demean Jesus?

- 5) Do you think it is possibly for obedience to Jesus to become delight rather than duty? How does that happen or will it always be a combination?

- 6) In what ways are you uncertain of what it means or looks like to be obedient to Jesus? Or, do you think you know what Jesus commands and understand the implementation of their commands and it is just a matter of motivation?

- 7) Is there a specific way you are trying to be obedient to Jesus right now that is a challenge?

- 8) Go back and read chapter 1 verse 10. What is the similar teaching or theme that is also found the verses 15 – 16 in chapter two?

- 9) What are things in our lives that you think should cause us to stand out when compared to the culture around us?

10) Even while pouring out his life as a sacrifice, Paul is proud and rejoices. What is he saying is the source of that joy as he encourages his readers? (vs. 15-17)

11) How do you think our lack of focus on the return of Jesus (“day of Christ”) could affect our joy or how should the promise of the coming day of Christ put us in a state of gladness?

General Questions:

- 1) What does this passage reveal about the identity of God the Father, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit and their role in our lives?
- 2) What are the promises or warnings given?
- 3) What does this passage reveal about who we are as humans and our identity as Christians?
- 4) Are there commands or exhortations given to followers of Christ? What are they and how do they get put into action in our lives?
- 5) Do I need to change the way I think about something/does my perspective need adjustment as a result of truths in this passage?
- 6) What are one or two questions that come to mind that would help me better understand or apply this passage to my life?
- 7) What words or phrases do I not understand that are making it difficult for me to understand the meaning of this passage?