

Home Builder's

Making Marriage Work in a Broken World

Lesson 1: What in the World is God Doing in my Life?

Philippians 2:12-18

Introduction:

Road construction can be frustrating, but it is necessary to ensure safe, smooth roads for our use. In the Christian life, there are also frustrating construction projects, but these construction projects are us! This process can also be frustrating, but the result is something beautiful. Don't be frustrated because God is at work in you!

This process is called sanctification.

Context:

Paul encouraged the Philippian church to maintain unity. The church was facing persecution, and it was not easy to be a Christian. The potential for division was huge. In 2:4-11, Paul called the church to take on the mind of Christ.

- I. Paul encouraged the believers that God was at work in them. (12-13)
 - A. Believers are to "work out" their salvation. (12)
 1. This does not mean that they needed to "work" to get saved or "figure out" if they were saved.
 2. Rather, the idea is that they needed to perform the "outworking" or the "ramifications" of their salvation.
 3. How is this possible?
 - B. God is at work in the believer's life to produce His fruit in them. (13)
 1. God is the one who enables us to do His will.
- II. Christians should live transformed lives because they God's lights in the world. (14-16)
 - A. All things should be done without mummering and disputing. (14)
 1. Murmuring means "quiet complaining".
 2. Disputing means "arguing".
 - B. Christians should be unified because we are the lights of the world. (15)
 - C. Christians should hold forth the Word of Life. (16)
- III. Paul rejoiced because his life was a sacrifice of service. (17-18)
 - A. Paul was prepared for his life to be spent for God. (17)

Big Idea: Paul exhorted the Philippians adopt the humility of Christ because God was at work in them to produce a unified church that would be a witness to the world.

Take Home Truth: We should adopt the humility of Christ because God is at work in you to make you a light in the world.

Application: **7 symptoms of pride**

- Fault finding
- A harsh spirit
- Superficiality
- Defensiveness
- Presumption before God
- Desperation for attention
- Neglecting others

It was CS Lewis who said, “True humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less.”

“If you plan to build a tall house of virtues, you must first lay deep foundations of humility.”

Write out some ways that you need to adopt the humility of Christ in your marriage:

For Next Week:

Lesson Title: The Foundation of a Lasting Marriage

Text(s): Genesis 2:18-25 | Ephesians 5:23-33

Consider what ways our culture pushes you to base your marriage on things that aren't lasting.