

*Life in Color #5*

## Joy in Living As Lights in a Dark World

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

Philippians 2:12-18

#### Discussion Questions

- In our Chinese culture, it takes a lot of courage to stand out for something we believe in because we are generally a reserved people. Most of us would rather keep to the background, but the Bible tells us that we need to stand out and be different. As Christians, we are called to let the world to see the way we live our lives. Discuss what the apostle Paul meant when he urged the Philippians to “work out your faith.”
- Your faith must be your own. Growing up in a Christian home or studying in a Christian school does not automatically make you a Christian. Your relationship with God must be personal, a choice that you decided to make on your own. Do you have a personal relationship with Him? Share with the group how you came to know the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior.
- Working out your faith means obeying God even on moments that you don’t want to. There will be times you will find it impossible to do what God wants you to do, but God promises that you are not alone. When God wants you to accomplish something for Him, He will enable you to do it (v. 13). Share with the group about an instance that you did something you know you could not have done without God’s help. How does God’s enablement help you succeed in what He wants you to do? How are you showing that God is real to you, especially when you go through daily struggles?
- As you work out your salvation by owning your faith and living it out daily, empowered and enabled by the Holy Spirit, Paul warns us against complaining and arguing (v. 14). Why is constant complaining harmful? Do you set conditions before obeying God? Discuss with the group the ways in which your complaints and conditions take away God’s blessings for you.
- As a follower of Christ, you don’t get to set the terms for your obedience. In verses 15-16, Paul gives us three things which we are to do, not subject to negotiation, that will result in working out your faith and owning it. The first is that *you are to live a blameless life*. Being blameless does not mean that you are perfect or faultless, but that you are above reproach, living in such a way that nothing you do shames the name of Christ. What are some habits that you are inclined to do despite knowing that they are wrong? Your life is either a thermometer or a thermostat. Do your convictions change according to the environment you’re in, or does your presence cause others to do what is right to please God? What will people in your sphere of influence say about you?
- The second thing you are to do as a believer is to *shine as a light in a dark world*. What is the purpose of light? If you are supposed to be the light in this dark world, are you bright and blinding enough to make people uncomfortable with sin? Or is your light so dim because it is diminished by your own sins? Name some ways in which you can be a shining light for God.
- What did you understand about the Blitz Banawe campaign, about claiming the area for God? Are you willing and eager to participate to make the people in the Banawe area aware that there is a church in Grace Village to help them in their spiritual needs?
- The third thing Paul teaches us to do as Christians that will result in owning our faith and pleasing God is *to hold on to the truths of the Bible* (v. 16). A transformed life is a real and effective witness to the power of God’s Word. How is the Word of God constantly transforming your life?
- In spite of his circumstances, Paul was truly joyful about being a light bearer for the Lord (v. 17-18). In what way can you identify with Paul as a fellow light bearer?

### Walk

In which of your spheres of influence do you most want to shine brightly for the Lord? One of these days you will meet God face to face. When He asks you, “How bright was your light for me?” what would your answer be?

### Worship & Prayer

**Join the Corporate Prayer Time every Friday, 7:15-8:00pm at the Balcony**

Pray for...

- GCCP Christians to be recognized as godly upright people wherever they go.
- Blessings upon every family represented in the “So Happy Together 2” event.
- Salvation and healing for stroke patients: Oscar Pardo Sr. and Violeta Chua.
- Healing for Arthur Que, FW (undergoing chemotherapy), Pedro Dyloco, ET, Renzo, Segundo Yu, MG’s aunt & father-in-law.
- Comfort and peace for bereaved family of Mrs. Alice Chua (蔡陳聚才老師).