

Real Joy: Standing Out in a Crowd Part 1
God's Role and Our Role in Salvation
Philippians 2:12-13
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I. Understanding God's role in Salvation

1. His Presence - *"It is God who is at work inside you."*

Ezekiel 36:26-27 - "I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances."

John 3:3,8 - "Jesus answered, '... I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.' 'The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.' "

Ephesians 2:4-5 - "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ. (by grace you have been saved)"

Ephesians 2:8-9 - "For by grace we have been saved through faith; and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."

1 Corinthians 10:31 - "Therefore... let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

2. His Power - *"To will and work"*

Deuteronomy 30:6 - "And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live."

Romans 2:29 - "But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, (done) by the Spirit, not by the letter."

3. His Pleasure - "*For His good pleasure*"

Deuteronomy 10:14-15 - "Behold, to the Lord your God belong heaven and the highest heavens, the earth and all that is in it. Yet on your fathers did the Lord set His affection to love them, and He chose their descendants after them, even you above all peoples, as it is this day."

Ephesians 1:11-12 - "...we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory."

II. Our Role in Salvation

1. For Believers – "*Work out your salvation with fear and trembling*"
2. For those who don't know Christ - Repent and trust in Christ alone.

Mark 1:15 – "Jesus was saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.' "

Faith Sheet

Transformation Verse – “My food is to do what my Father sent me to do.”
John 4:34

Main Points: Jonah 2:9 - “...Salvation belongs to the Lord.” By His grace (God’s *free unmerited choice of favor toward us*), we have been delivered from our sins and now know and treasure Jesus Christ. God’s amazing grace in our lives leads to faith in Christ as well as a transformed life that glorifies Him.

#1- Reviewing this past Sunday

1. Read Philippians 2:12-13 and discuss the message with someone.
2. How much credit goes to God for the salvation of individuals?
3. To “boast” is to be prideful or to congratulate oneself because of one’s own abilities, wisdom, achievements etc. Read Ephesians 2:8-9 and 1 Corinthians 1:28-31. What does God say to “boast” about, and what does He say we cannot “boast” about?
4. Spend time praising Him and thanking Him for who He is, what He has done, is doing, and will do in your life and in others.

2- Preparing for next Sunday

The Joy of Standing Out in a Crowd #2 Philippians 2:12-18

1. Read Philippians 2:12-18.
2. How do the truths of verses 12 and 13 impact the command in verse 14?
3. Why is not grumbling impossible without Christ?
4. How do grumbling and arguing keep us from shining like lights?
5. In what kind of world do we live? (vs. 15)
6. Put verses 16-18 in your own words.