

WORKOUT

Workout

Philippians 2:12

Sunday School Opening

Jon L Hardinger

2021.10.31



Making Melody #369 “He Giveth More Grace”
by Annie Johnson Flint, and score by Hubert Mitchell.
A confession of resources for our lives.

- He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater
- He send-eth more strength when the labors increase
- To added affliction He add-edth His mercy
- To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.
- His love has no limit, His grace has no measure
- His power has no boundary known unto men.
- For out of His infinite riches in Jesus,
- He giv-eth, and give-th, and give-th again.

Making Melody #396 “Speak To Us Lord,”
From 1 Samuel 3:9 composed by Gordon Brattle

- Speak to us Lord, in this brief hour today,
- Give light upon the written word we pray;
- Stir heart and mind to heed and to obey
- For this we plead.

Philippians 2:5-13

- **Philippians 2:5-13 (NASB)**

⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.

⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,

¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² 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;

¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure.

“work out your own salvation” A phrase from Philippians 2:12

- This interesting and commonly used phrase, is my topic today. Come along with me to discover the Bible verse containing workout!



The Lord Jesus Christ is given as a perfect example in Chapter 2 for the believers and for us today.

- “He was obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross”
- He fulfilled His calling by **working out** what was before Him to do.
- The Lord Jesus did part of His work-out and in the garden of Gethsemene.
- He approached, anticipated the cross with “fear and trembling”

- **work out—carry out to its full perfection. “Salvation” is “worked in” (Php 2:13; Eph 1:11) believers by the Spirit, who enables them through faith to be justified *once for all; but it needs, as a progressive work, to be “worked out” by obedience, through the help of the same Spirit, unto perfection (2 Pe 1:5–8). The sound Christian neither, like the formalist, rests in the means, without looking to the end, and to the Holy Spirit who alone can make the means effectual; nor, like the fanatic, hopes to attain the end without the means.***
- ***In other words enabled by the Spirit, progressively obey to completion.You can't have a focus on the process, nor the goal, but he goal in the process***

- “... Work out your own salvation. It is the **salvation of our souls** (1 Pt. 1:9), and our eternal salvation (Heb. 5:9), and contains deliverance from all the evils sin had brought upon us and exposed us to, and the possession of all good and whatsoever is necessary to our complete and final happiness.
- ...secure the **welfare of our souls**: whatever becomes of other things, let us take care of our best interests. It is our own salvation, the salvation of our own souls.
- It is **not for us to judge** other people; we have enough to do to look to ourselves; and, though we must promote the common salvation (Jude 3) ... (not to) neglect our own.
- “...work out our salvation, *katergazesthe*. The word signifies working thoroughly at a thing, and taking true pains. ... we must work out our salvation, by **doing all** that is to be done, and persevering therein to the end.
- “... He adds, With fear and trembling, that is, with **great care and circumspection**: “Trembling for fear lest you miscarry and come short. Be careful to do every thing in religion in the best manner, and fear lest under all your advantages you should so much as seem to come short,” Heb. 4:1. Fear is a **great guard and preservative from evil**.

- 12. My beloved. A favorite expression (occurring twice in 4:1) that betrays a warm love for his converts. He urges them to work out their own salvation, especially now in his absence. **The passage relates primarily to the community rather than to the individual** (cf. Michael, *op. cit.*, p. 98 ff.). *Salvation is corporate. The Philippians were to carry through (katergazomai, keep on working out, is continuous present) the deliverance of the church into a state of Christian maturity. Fear and trembling seems to be an idiomatic expression for a **humble frame of mind** (cf. I Cor 2:3; II Cor 7:15; Eph 6:5).* 13. Humility in reference to their deliverance was in place because, in spite of their cooperation, it was God (note emphatic position) who created within them both the **will and the power** (he “energizes” —*energeō*) to do his pleasure (or, to promote the good will, viz., harmony in the Philippian church).

Ryrie, C. C. (1995). (Expanded ed., p. 1890). Chicago: Moody Press.

Ryrie, C. C. (1995). [Ryrie study Bible: New American Standard Bible, 1995 update \(Expanded ed., p. 1890\). Chicago: Moody Press.](#)

- ***2:12 work out your salvation. Not work for it, but work it out in the personal and church problems at Philippi.***

Dave LaMarche adds

- “think of fear and trembling as awe and reverence.” That's the way the NET translation puts it. “The attitude the believer should have toward God as they consider their behavior in light of God working through Jesus Christ and in the believers life to accomplish salvation.” I quoted that from the NET notes.
-
- I think of the awesomeness of God, His holiness, verses about the danger of false professions of faith or a lack of evidence of faith. I don't think it is appropriate to get lighthearted about any of our behavior that dishonors God. God uses strong language about us being grafted into the root and how we could be grafted out again. I believe in eternal salvation, but I also don't think we should trifle with God. I think the attitude of 'I'm saved so I can do whatever I want' is false religion and dangerous. We should be serious about doing what God tells us to do.

David Hardinger

- I appreciate your asking about Bible interpretation, but would consider you more an authority than me on this. Reading the Catholic edition, I like to read more than just a verse as it provides more context of the subject matter.
- So here goes: Philippians 2 begins with a plea for Unity and Humility. Probably one of the most quoted or known verses is 9 - 11: Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. .
-

- The next set of verses 2:12-18; addresses Obedience and Service to the world.
- Verse 12: So then, my beloved, obedient as you have always been, not only when I am present but all the more now when I am absent, work out your salvation with fear and trembling.
- Dave says, " My primary "analogy" to this is our present day world. When we go online, when we have our cell phones with us, when we drive on the roads, cameras, google maps, locations and sites are all being recorded. So wherever we are, we're never "alone". Similarly in verse 12, even when we're alone and not with others, we're God is with us. In other words, we're never alone. But when we have Catholic Mass, or church services we have peer support. Or when we read and study scripture and Bible study we have peer support. But when "alone"/ that peer support is not there, that is when we have the **discipline to continue our service to Christ** to support us. My personal perspective is to substitute fear and trembling with honor and respect. I don't want to humanize God, but I think "fear" as defined in the Bible, is more of an awe and respect for God's power and presence. "
- The verses that continue relate that when we're alone, don't "grumble" as we are "NOT" alone.
- So you probably have to condense your thoughts that go into this to fit the time allowed, as this has significant meaning.
- Hope this helps.
- dlh

Brian Stiles

- Some thoughts...The NLT translates it as "work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. Paul is essentially telling the church to "reach for the stars". The verb "work out" doesn't mean work FOR, **it means to work to full completion, like a math problem.** In Paul's day it was also used for "working a mine" and getting out all the valuable ore (gold mine nearby) you could from it. What we're talking about is Christlikeness, "to be conformed to the image of His son" (Rom. 8:29). Our lives have tremendous potential, like a mine, or a field, and God wants to help us fulfill that potential. For we are not to be cheap imitations of other people, even great Christians, we are to be followers of Christ (1 Cor. 11:1). It is important that we don't isolate and insulate ourselves as we work out our faith, for its not by leaving the world but by ministering to it that we see God's purpose fulfilled in our lives. (Phil. 2:15).

Rowena Hardinger

- You might consider Romans 12: 3-8. We are all different.....Best wishes for your presentation.
- **Romans 12:3-8 (NASB)**
 - ³ For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.
 - ⁴ For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function,
 - ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.
 - ⁶ Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly*: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;
 - ⁷ if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching;
 - ⁸ or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Jon Hardinger

- The expression, broaden ones mind, was behind my asking family and commentaries their understanding of this verse.
- Joanne enthusiastically spoke of our personal responsibility to apply our walk to what we know. I asked what her succinct speaking brother Mark would say, and said, “What ever is not from faith is sin.” Romans 14:23.
- Since then, I aimed more carefully and tried to focus on the meaning to the Philippians. I believe it is the corporate work.

Jon Hardinger

- I think the main context of “Work out” is in the church, in Southern parlance, “You' all work out”
- If this letter had been to Philemon, or Timothy it would apply more to the individual
- However, it has the primary target of the entire church.
- Then, to say especially our “work” is a process, and work is training, being coachable, and obedient.
- Remember the “work out” accounts of the Philippians in Acts, and the night in the jail! Remember that this is a Greek city, not Asia.



