



Sermon Discussion Questions

For small group leaders or for a whole small group to use

"Abandon All Grumbling" (Philippians 2: 12-18) July 5, 2026

Danny Strong

Sermon Overview

Main Idea

In the first chapter Paul admonishes the Philippians to strive to live a manner of life worthy of the Gospel. This pattern of life is to have the mind of Christ who lowered himself below our interests and needs by dying in our place. He was therefore exalted. We now follow his pattern of lowering ourselves and then experiencing glory. In this text Paul gives two commands how we can live worthy of the Gospel. First, work out your salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who is at work in us. Second, do not grumble, for it is the opposite of trusting the Lord. We need to stop believing that we have the power to control the world with our work and words.

Sermon Outline

1. Work out your salvation with fear and trembling (v. 12-13)
2. Do all things without grumbling or disputing (v. 13-18)

Quotations

"You don't get the resurrection unless you go through the cross. You don't find your life unless you lose it."

"The opposite of grumbling is faith."

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Discussion Questions

Read the Scripture Text (if the text is shorter, consider reading it together several times).

Initial Engagement

- What is the main idea of the text, or what did the sermon focus on? (See above to review the main point)
- What insight from the text or sermon stood out to you most, and why? (Encourage several people to share)

Deeper Reflection on the Meaning and Implications

1. How have you experienced that following Jesus' pattern of lowering oneself for the benefit of others brings you joy and meaning? What are your biggest challenges in putting the needs of others ahead of your own?
2. What is the meaning of 'working out your salvation with fear and trembling'?
3. How do you experience your partnership with the Lord, that he is working in you while you are striving along with him?
4. How does grumbling demonstrate a lack of trusting in the Lord?
5. What space in your life are you giving to grumbling? What kind of energy and joy is your grumbling stealing from you?

Final Response

- What is one thing you want to remember or do in light of this sermon or discussion?