



OBSERVE & REFLECT

(This section is designed to encourage us to reflect on and observe the scripture and weekend sermon)

READ Philippians 2:1-18

- Read the text at least twice. Try reading the text from two different translations.
- What do you observe in the text? What jumps out at you and grabs your attention? What questions do you have from the text? Pay attention to any action words or phrases and observe what the implications are.
- Reflect on the sermon from the weekend regarding this passage. What aspects or truths from the sermon left an impression on you and why?

INVESTIGATE & APPLY

(This section focuses on what the scripture has to say as we dig deeper into the Word. It is oriented to create discussion on the scripture)

- 1. In verse 12 Paul says “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling”...then in verse 13 he writes for it is God who works in you.

Why is it important to keep these two verses connected? In other words, if verse 12 is read without verse 13, what conclusion could someone come to? What does it mean that “God is working in you”? How is He working in you? In your desires? Your mind? Your work?

- 2. Paul commands “in everything do not grumble” (in verse 14)

Why do we grumble and complain? Why do we feel like we can do this?

Reflect back on Exodus 16: 1-3. We see how easy it was for Israel to forget and/or miss what God has done for them both individually and as a nation. Take a look at your life. What has God given you? Maybe the better question is what has God entrusted to you?

- 3. I love the phrase, “shine like stars (lights)” that Paul uses as an image for Jesus-Followers (Christians) in the world.

Right now in your life what opportunities (or divine moments) do you have to:

- a) Illuminate His (God’s) beauty?
- b) Tell His story?
- c) Guide and navigate those who are lost in the darkness?

- 4. Paul writes, “be poured out as a drink offering” in verse 17.

What does it look like to offer your life as a sacrifice? What does it mean to be “poured out”? And how is this being obedient to Jesus and the life that He modeled?