

Philippians 2:12-18

Shine like Stars!



Think about and discuss one or two questions from each section.

The text – Philippians 2:12-18

1. Read Philippians 2:12-18. Paul is writing to a church in which he has many friends. Discuss his teachings about “obedience” and “work” in 2:12-13. How do we work? How does God work?
2. Philippi is a difficult city in which to be a servant of Christ. Caesar worship is strong in this city. In 2:14-16 how does Paul instruct the church to “shine among them like stars in the sky”?
3. Paul has invested deeply into this church. He loves them. In 2:17-18, how does he describe his ministry and his hopes for the Philippian believers?

The Scriptures – Philippians 2:12-18 as a portion of the Scriptures

4. Some of the words of 2:14-15 are a restatement of Moses’ rebuke to Israel in Deuteronomy 32. Read Deuteronomy 32:4-5. Why do you think Paul draws on these words from Moses?
5. Paul was one of those who initially planted the church in Philippi. The account is found in Acts 16:11-40. Read the first section – Acts 16:11-15. Discuss what happened.

Our lives – walking the way of Jesus in response to Philippians 2:12-18 as a portion of the Scriptures

6. In seeking to live as disciples of Christ, we face new issues in society. What do you think are the biggest challenges to Christian faith in our time and place? What troubles you about the world?
7. How can we pray and support one another as we seek to shine like stars in the sky?

