



+ Many groups are finding that lockdown means meeting over zoom is more complicated and so we will tweak these Bible study notes to cater for that. They will be slightly shorter with fewer (but broader) questions

This week at Magdalen Road church we continued our series in Philippians as we considered they are working of the description and mindset that the people of got up to have as They follow Jesus.

We had two main points:

1. **Salvation worked out (v12-13)**

Paul has very much been in 'all-in' when it comes to Christ-shaped-servant-hearted-self-denying-discipleship. We considered how these verses answer some of our doubts as to whether we can really live in this way and not burn out:

- 1) It's not work for, it's work out: We're not serving to earn anything (which can be exhausting and joyless) but rather because we belong to him already. We serve from a place of grace and acceptance not to seek to acquire it
- 2) It's not about you, it's about us: this is a letter to a people rather than to you as an individual. Remember we're a family meal not a restaurant.
- 3) It's not us in our strength, it's God in his. V13 is so encouraging! God equips and enables us to do what he asks us to do.

2. **Word of Life held out (v14-18)**

As we hold onto the word of life so we hold it to others. The striking idea in these verses is that it's through low-level every-day not complaining or arguing that bolsters our shining like stars witness. People are watching to see if our following Christ actually makes any difference. Paul looks ahead to the day of Christ when he'll rejoice because God has finished his work in them.

Here are 3 (ish) application questions to chew over with your group

1. As we live out our salvation why ought we not burnout? Why do we struggle with burnout?
2. In what contexts do you find it hard to shine like stars? What does Paul mean by this?
3. How can we help each other not complain / argue / grumble (as is so common)? What tactics, mindsets etc have helped you?