

Discussion Guide

Series: Fear of the Lord, Wk5: Fear & Responsibility

June 29, 2025



Big Idea

We must work out what God works in, embracing the responsibility of growing in our faith?



Icebreaker

What did you find was an effective way to deal with this past week's heat streak?



Discussion Questions

1. Start by just sharing some background to the Book of Philippians (i.e. who wrote it, where were they when they wrote it, who was its initial audience, and where was that located? Now Read Acts 16:11-24 which documents the...well...tumultuous planting of the church of Philippi.
2. Paul writes the letter of Philippians from prison, but from a different one than Acts 16 documents (he was rather familiar with prison). This time he writes from prison in Rome, yet he's full of joy and encouragement. How can he be and what can we learn from his mindset when facing hard or uncertain times? How can joy and fear of the Lord coexist in our faith? OPTIONAL: read Acts 16:25-34 which may explain some of Paul's joy mindset which developed over time & experience.
3. Read Philippians 2:5-11. These are not Paul's original words so where do they most likely come from & what are they? Most importantly, what do they communicate? Coming off them, now read Philippians 2:12-13. What are some things we are "*therefore*" (based on Christ's example) called to do?
4. What does it mean to "*work out your salvation with fear and trembling*"? How is this different from "*working for*" your salvation? Fill in the blanks of these main sermon points: *Salvation is the p____, p____, and future work of Jesus in your life. We must w____ out what God w____ in.* What are some ways this can practically look like/happen in your life today?
5. Read Philippians 2:14-16a (end at "... word of life."). Why do you think Paul emphasizes doing everything without grumbling or arguing? How does complaining affect our witness to others—especially the next generation? In what area of your life do you struggle with this most? What will be the result of us obeying this, per this passage? Why is that important?
6. The sermon mentioned "*holding fast*" and "*holding forth*" the word of life (vs. 16). What's the difference between the two? In your life, how are you doing both—clinging to God's Word and offering it to others? If you are not, what needs to change?



Concluding Question

Is the following Pastor Joby Martin quote convicting to you? If so, why & what will you do about it?

"Don't complain about the next generation if you're not discipling the next generation."

-Joby Martin



Prayer

Pray for the families of the church who dedicated their children this past Sunday. Also pray that the *Outreach Grab Bags* provided to kids will be undeniable forces of God's hope, healing, and grace leading people to consider or grow in Christ!