**JOY TO YOUR WORLD: Embracing the “Rocky” Workout**

# Philippians 2:12-16

Dr. Matt Shackelford  Central Church  December 10, 2023  Social Media: #JoyToYourWorld

***Working Out What God has Worked In***

***Brings Joy to Your World.***

1. Accept Your **Responsibility** to Work Out Your Faith (12, 13).
* *Be Inspired by a Pro.*
* *Get Encouragement from Mentors.*
* *Get Accountability from Friends.*
* *Work Expectantly for Growth.*
* *Make Personalized Plans to Grow.*
* *Stop Staring in the mirror.*
1. Acknowledge Your **Resource** to Work Out Your Faith (13).

1. Anticipate the **Results** of Working Out Your Faith (14-16).

***Philippians 2:12-16***

*Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,*

***13****for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.*

***14****Do all things without grumbling or disputing,* ***15****that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,* ***16****holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.*

*(ESV)*

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# Philippians 2:12-16

***Quote for the Week. . .***

**By John Piper**

*“There is a kind of cavalier attitude toward our security today. There is little trembling. Little vigilance and earnestness and caution and watchfulness over our souls. There is a kind of casual, slack, careless attitude toward the possibility that we might make shipwreck of our faith and fail to lay hold on eternal life. We have the notion that security is a kind of mechanical, automatic thing. We prayed once to receive Jesus. We are safe and there is no place for “working out your salvation with fear and trembling” (Philippians 2:12).”*

***John Piper, When Is It Dangerous to Look at Jesus? June 15, 2005, Fresh Words, Used by Permission, www.DesiringGod.org.***

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

*These questions are for further study and application of today’s sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help your fight for life change. One of the best ways to grow in the body is by discussing the answers to these questions in a small group. Find one here:* [*www.centralchurch.com/groups*](http://www.centralchurch.com/groups)

1. Every part of the Christian life is fueled by God’s grace. Describe the relationship between God’s grace and our works, how grace fuels our growth in godliness.
2. Why is it true that if a Christian is not growing, it can never be God’s fault? What are some ways you can reenter a growing season?
3. The results of practical justification are noticeable not just in the believer, but also in his community. As you read verses 14-16, how will you choose to intentionally “glow in the dark” days of our times?