

September 3, 2017
What the Abundant Life Involves
Philippians 2:12,13

You Actively Working With God (12)

- Some people act right only when an authority figure is present (e.g. police, parents, pastor, the apostle Paul)
 1. For the believer, God is a _____ present
 2. His presence should be our motivation _____ to do what is right.
- The command is to *work out your salvation with fear and trembling*
 1. **Work out** your salvation
 - a. We do not work for _____ our salvation (Eph 2:8,9 states that God did the work of salvation and gave it as a gift).
 - b. We must live _____ out the implications of our salvation by doing what God wants (Eph 2:10 – we were saved to do good works _____).
 2. **Work out your salvation**
 - a. How many times have you listened to a sermon and thought “I hope that person is listening”? We cannot work out another person’s life for them.
 - b. We are responsible to obey _____ God’s instruction to our own lives. How are you doing?
 3. **Work out your salvation with fear and trembling**
 - a. This phrase is found in 1 Cor 2:3; 2 Cor 7:15; Eph 6:5
 - 1) Notice that Eph 6:5 is a command to slaves as to how they were to obey _____ their masters.
 - 2) How can you decide to be afraid?
 - b. The idea is to show deep reverence _____ to God as we work with Him (see New Living Translation).

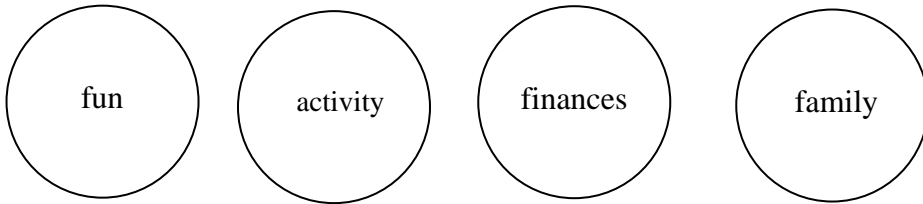
God Actively Working in You (13)

- Can you carry out God’s will by your own power? (see Jn 15:5). We must cooperate _____ with God.
- God is working in you two things in relationship to His good pleasure (what pleases Him):
 1. To will (NLT – to desire)
 - a. This word describes a wish, want, or desire
 - b. The only reason we want to please God is because He puts that desire within us (Matt 26:41)
 - 1) The spirit is willing _____ (God works through the spirit – Gal 5:16)
 - 2) But the flesh is weak _____ (Satan works through the flesh – Gal 5:17)
 2. To work (NIV – to act; NLT – power to do)
 - a. The Greek word is where we get our word *epithymia* - God supplies the power or strength to please Him.
 - b. What is the solution to overcoming addictions? – God’s power _____ which He works in each one of us.
 - 1) A _____ to yourself you have a problem
 - 2) C _____ to God that you have a problem
 - 3) P _____ for His power
 - 4) Don’t fight _____ with temptation but flee from it.
 - 5) If you fail, repent. Then strive to live in the power He supplies.
 - c. What is the solution to overcoming any temptation?

Conclusion:

Living the abundant life requires us to actively work with God as we tap into what God is working in us – the desire and power to please Him.

The miserable Christian is one who centers life in people or things



The abundant life (which is the only life that satisfies) is making all the above C_____ centered.

