

PIVOT – Uncompromising Flexibility

Life Group Questions – June 7th, 2020

Principle #6 – Guard your Heart

2:12-18

Luke 6:45 ‘The good man out of the good treasure of his **heart** brings forth what is good; and the evil *man* out of the evil *treasure* brings forth what is evil; for his **mouth** speaks from that which fills his **heart**.’

- Maturing in our faith is a **team** effort vs. 12-13
 - We work **out** our salvation – making it fully visible and **tangible**
 - God works in us for His good **purpose**
- Our response to God’s work is very **revealing** vs. 14-18
 - Two responses: **‘grumbling and disputing’** vs. **‘rejoicing and joy’**
 - It reveals what we feel about **God’s plan** for our lives
 - It discloses to **unbelievers** what we think about God and His plan
 - It robs the reward and joy of our spiritual **mentors**

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QUICK REVIEW

1. In Philippians 2:7, we read that Jesus “emptied Himself.” Pastor Phil said that Jesus essentially “pocketed” some of His divine attributes, like His authority and glory (see Matthew 24:36). Is it possible for believers to empty themselves in a comparable way? Explain.
2. Compare and contrast between worldly humiliation and biblical humiliation. Why does God exalt those who humble themselves? (see Luke 18:4, James 4:10 and 1 Peter 5:6)

MY STORY

1. Have you ever blown it in a circumstance by making it about you and not Jesus or others? What tough lesson did you learn as a result? What attitude(s) do you have that prevent you from being a consistent witness for Jesus? How can you make the gospel more attractive?
2. Have you ever personally experienced hostility as a Christ-follower? Share any experiences that you may have had in this area and the impact that it made on your faith.
3. In what internal or obscure ways do you complain and argue? What can you do instead to please God?

GOING DEEP (read Philippians 2:12-18)

1. In v. 12, the Apostle Paul admonishes us to “work out our salvation with fear and trembling.” We know that Paul did *not* mean “work so as to earn your own salvation.” What did he mean? Isn’t our salvation complete when we first believed? Why must we do this with “fear and trembling?”
2. How does v. 13 relate to v. 12? How can it help believers knowing that God is also at work in us? Why does God do this work? What is our role as He works in us?
3. Read Matthew 15:18-19 and James 3:1-12. Grumbling and disputing are both activities that demand the taming of our tongues. What happens to those around us when we lose control of our words? How is it possible to tame our tongues?
4. As a group, make a list of all the reasons why the Philippians (and us) should share in Paul’s joy.

PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for **you** to remember?