Phil 2:12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling.





Phil 2:12 "So then, my beloved..." [Agapetoi]

Louw & Nida "One who is the only one of his class & is particularly loved and cherished " 58.53



Individuals: Tychicus (Eph 6:21); Epaphras (Col 1:7), Luke (Col 4:4), Timothy (2 Tim 1:2), Philemon and *Onesimus*. (Phil 1:1, 16)

Phil 2:12 Just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence. (Roman imprisonment)

Jailer Acts 16: 23. Ardent about Salvation. Immediately was baptized, Provided food and Rejoiced. Lydia (Acts 16: 14-15) Lord opened her heart, she & her household were Baptized then she opened her home. Baby church' Philippi (Phil 4:15-16)Sent a gift more than once to Paul even in Thessalonica.

Phil 2:12 ... work out your salvation with fear & trembling HOW were they

(we) to do this?

(Barnes) "They were to make honest effort to be saved in the way which God has appointed."

Not just any way they liked (John 12:48; Mt 7:21-23)

But in diligence growth (2 Pet 1:5-10; Acts 2:40)





Why Some Don't Pray.

- 1. Sin haunts our life. Some feel defeated, *alienated*. (Acts 3:19; Ps 51)
- 2. Some are angry at God. (Gen 4:7)
 Tragedy, lost family member. (Job 1:20-22; 2:10)
- 3. We quit believing God will respond. (Hab 1:2-4) Totally Discouraged. (Hab 1:5-11; Job 9:16-18)
- 4. Prideful, self-satisfied. Don't need God (Lk 8:14)
- 5. Some are afraid God Will respond. Others Don't Care enough. Some are totally Overwhelmed. We We think Small. (1 Ths 5:17) But don't quit praying

Phil 2:13 For it is **God who is at work** in you, both to will & to work for His good pleasure.



To will: God, providentially shapes man's will.

Prov 21:1 *Heart of the king* is in the hand of the Lord.

Psalms 119:36 *Incline my heart* to Your testimonies.

Ezra 7:27 Blessed be the LORD who has put such a thing in the king's heart [Artaxerxes] to adorn House of Lord.



And to work: Bearing fruit (John 15:1-5; Col 1:9-10) Gospel meeting on Evangelism May 21-25th Come

Phil 2:14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing... v15 appear as **lights** in the world.

Grumbling: Low-toned **complaint,** murmuring. (Acts 6:1; James 5:9)

Disputing: To openly argue differences of opinion. Louw & Nida



What's the impact on a church that does this?



Negative impact on visitors.

So rejoice! (v.17)

Great Principles for use of Our Tongue. (Jas 3:8)

"No one can tame the tongue, a restless evil, full of deadly poison"

- 1. If tempted to say something mean (Prov 12:18) Sword
- 2. When you don't have all the facts (Prov 14:33) Wisdom..
- 3. When you are tempted to yell (Prov 15:1-2) Gentle ans...
- 4. When you want to interrupt (Prov 18:13) Shame & folly.
- 5. When you haven't *verified* facts (Prov 18:17) 1st to plead
- 6. If the issue is none of your business (Prov 26:17) Dog by..
- 7. If tempted to outright lie (Ps 141:3) Lord.. set a guard
- 8. If your words are *critical* rather than kind (Col 4:6) Grace
- 9. When should say nothing (Prov 21:23) Guard yer mouth

Phil 2:15 Be blameless and harmless... in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world.

Eph 5:8 You were formerly darkness...

But now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light.

v10 Trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.