# **Philippians**

# God Finishes What He Begins

**WEEKLY WORSHIP TOOLS** 

ISSUE 11: MAY 30 - JUNE 5, 2020



# PURPOSE AND SUGGESTED USE

Crosspoint Church has set out to produce an issue of *Weekly Worship Tools* for the encouragement and resourcing of our church body each week. Each Saturday, this guide is published with the hope that it will aid you in being transformed by the gospel and living daily on mission.

This document is structured in two categories: weekend resources and weekday resources. Sundays we gather for Corporate Worship and sit under the teaching of the Word of God as we fellowship together. The first guide listed in the Table of Contents below, "Prepare for Worship," is produced to stir our meditation on the passage to be preached, causing us to prepare our hearts for the message on Sunday. Additionally, we have provided you with a basic outline of the "Sermon Notes" to guide your attention and participation with the Pastor as he works through the message. Furthermore, a set of lyric sheets have been added following the "Prepare for Worship" for your convenience as you join in worship through song on Sunday morning.

A Sermon Discussion Guide and a Daily Worship Guide are provided for individual or household worship through the week. The focus of Monday and Tuesday is an opportunity to look back at the Scripture preached on Sunday. Each Wednesday we will read an Old Testament passage that connects to what is being communicated through our sermon Scripture. Thursday's focus is observing a Psalm that relates to this passage and our immediate context. Fridays begin looking forward to the coming Sunday as we observe the Scripture passage for the coming Corporate Worship gathering.

It is recommended that you use this set of tools alongside your Bible with a way to record any notes, insights, or questions (i.e. in a journal, word doc, etc.) you may have while you study.



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# PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

Last Sunday, Pastor Ken encouraged us from Galatians 5:16-26 with the truth that living by the Spirit empowers us to reject the desires of the flesh.

## Read: Philippians 1:6

This Sunday, Pastor Jason Finley will preach an encouraging message from Philippians 1:6, pointing us to confidently trust in God's person, purposes, and plans in uncertain times. As you prepare for Sunday worship, let these words from Timothy Lane and Paul Tripp reassure you that God is continuing his good work in you, even in your darkest moments.

## Reflect: "God Will Not Quit"

No matter what you face today, you can be encouraged that God's good work continues in your life, even when you don't see it. God continues his work right in the middle of that tough situation at work, or with your teenager, or that battle with your weight, or your struggle with discouragement. God moves you forward as you submit yourself to him. His presence and faithful work give us confidence. As you have that tough conversation with a friend, you can say to yourself, Christ is working right now to complete what he started in me. As you struggle with your finances, you can say to your spouse, "We can get through this because Christ is working right now to complete what he has begun in us." When it seems that you are in a losing battle with sin, you can say, I have hope for victory because Christ is working in me right now to complete what he has begun. This Christ-centered confidence moves us toward our ultimate goal, the thing for which we were made, the praise and glory of God (Philippians 1:11). Remember that as Paul writes to the Philippians, he is in prison, testing for himself the very truths he is so eager to have them understand!

Life is seldom simple. Growth in God's grace is a process and not an event. Tough things are not going to turn around overnight because you have entrusted them to the Lord. The Bible is honest in its description of how grave and comprehensive our war with sin is. Individuals, friendships, churches, marriages, and neighborhoods don't turn around in a moment. The Bible describes the Christian life as a journey that often takes us through the wilderness. You will get tired and confused. You will have moments when you wonder where God is. You will struggle to see God's promises at work in your life. You will feel that following God has brought you more suffering than blessing. You will go through moments when it seems as if the principles of Scripture don't work. It will sometimes seem as if the wrong side wins. There will be moments when you feel alone and misunderstood. There will be times when you feel like quitting.



# PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

This passage is meant to encourage you to be full of hope in the midst of things you don't fully understand. You don't have to figure everything out. You do need to know and trust the One who does understand, and who knows exactly what he is doing. Do you look at your life as Paul looked at the Philippians' lives and his own? Do you live with Christ-centered confidence? Do you want what God wants for you, or do you hold tightly onto your own agenda?

God will not quit until every bit of his work is complete in each of his children. We can have courage and hope in any situation. God's dream for us will come true.

Excerpt from How People Change, by Timothy S. Lane and Paul David Tripp

## Sing: Song List for Sunday

- 1. "The Lord Our God," by Passion
- 2. "Sovereign Over Us," Arr. Shane & Shane
- 3. "In Christ Alone," Arr. Passion



# **SONG LYRICS**

## "THE LORD OUR GOD"

#### **Passion**

(Verse 1)

Promise maker promise keeper
You finish what You begin
Our provision through the desert
You see it through till the end
You see it through till the end

## (Chorus)

The Lord our God is ever faithful
Never changing through the ages
From this darkness You will lead us
And forever we will say
You're the Lord our God

#### (Verse 2)

In the silence in the waiting
Still we can know You are good
All Your plans are for Your glory
Yes we can know You are good
Yes we can know You are good

#### (Bridge)

We won't move without You
We won't move without You
You're the light of all and all that we need

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Jason Ingram | Kristian Stanfill

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# **SONG LYRICS**

## "SOVEREIGN OVER US"

Shane & Shane Arrangement

(Verse 1)

There is strength within the sorrow
There is beauty in our tears
And You meet us in our mourning
With a love that casts out fear

(Verse 2)

You are working in our waiting
Sanctifying us
When beyond our understanding
You're teaching us to trust

(Chorus)

Your plans are still to prosper
You've not forgotten us
You're with us in the fire and the flood
Faithful forever perfect in love
You are sov'reign over us

(Verse 3)

You are wisdom unimagined Who could understand Your ways Reigning high above the heavens Reaching down in endless grace

(Verse 4)

You're the lifter of the lowly
Compassionate and kind
You surround and You uphold me
And Your promises are my delight

(Bridge)

Even what the enemy means for evil
You turn it for our good
You turn it for our good
And for Your glory
Even in the valley You are faithful
You're working for our good
You're working for our good
And for Your glory

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Aaron Keyes | Bryan Brown | Jack Mooring

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# **SONG LYRICS**

## "IN CHRIST ALONE"

**Passion Arrangement** 

## (Verse 1)

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

## (Verse 2)

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save'
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

#### (Verse 3)

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

## (Verse 4)

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand
Oh oh, oh oh

#### (Bridge)

I find my strength, I find my hope
I find my help in Christ alone
When fear assails, when darkness falls
I find my peace in Christ alone
I give my life, I give my all
I sing this song to Christ alone
The King of Kings, the Lord of all
All heaven sings to Christ alone

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# **SERMON NOTES**

## GOD FINISHES WHAT HE BEGINS

Philippians 1:6

### Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Big Idea: God finishes what He begins.

When we doubt God is a faithful finisher, we need to remember these three things:

## I. GOD'S UNCHANGING CHARACTER

#### Acts 16:14

One who heard us was a woman named Lydia... The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.

#### II. GOD'S PURPOSEFUL PLANS

## Philippians 3:12-14

[12] Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. [13] Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, [14] I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Confidence in God's purposeful plan to complete what he's begun is now our motivation to press on.

#### Psalm 138:7-8

[7] Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me. [8] The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

## Hebrew 12:1-3

...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, [2] looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. [3] Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted..



# **SERMON NOTES**

## GOD FINISHES WHAT HE BEGINS

Philippians 1:6

#### **III. GOD'S GLORIOUS REVEALING**

#### **BENEDICTION**

## 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

[23] Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. [24] He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.





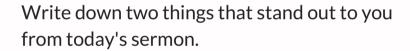


What book of the Bible are we learning from?



Who's preaching this morning?

What is the big idea of the sermon?



Did you learn anything new about God, people, or salvation?



# SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## **OBJECTIVES**

- 1. Pursue growth together.
- 2. Care for and connect with one another.
- 3. Recognize the power you have in the Spirit to bear godly fruit and not gratify the desires of the flesh.

## **DISCUSS**

- Share about a time when you started a project that you did not finish. Why did you not finish it? (lacked finances, skill, motivation, time; it was no longer needed, etc...)
- Read Philippians 1:6. What encouraged, convicted, or helped you from this week's message and passage?
- Why would Paul begin this letter to the Philippians with such an expression of certainty? What in
  the context of Philippians and Acts 16 gives us clues as to their uncertainty and sorrow? How does
  Paul's life demonstrate his assurance that God finishes what He begins?
- Instead of saying God's name, how does Paul describe God in this text? How does knowing God's attributes deepen our faith amidst uncertainty?
- What is the "day of Jesus Christ" and what will happen then? [Phil. 1:10, 2:16; 1 Thess. 5:2-4, 23-24; 1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 8:17]
- Read Hebrews 12:1-3. How does Jesus' work on the cross give assurance that we can trust God to
  complete His work of salvation in us regardless of hardship and uncertainty? [We have confidence
  that God will complete His work in us on the basis of Jesus completing his work on the cross.
  Jesus Is both the "founder and perfecter of our faith."]
- Later in the letter to the Philippians, Paul describes his striving toward the finish line of the Christian life (see Phil. 3:12-16, 20-21).
  - In the Christian life, is our growth and perseverance God's work, our work, or both? Discuss what the Bible has to say on this subject.
  - In what specific way is the Spirit leading you to press on?

For larger groups, consider using Zoom breakouts for the following questions leading into smaller group prayer time. If using Zoom, you may want to type these questions into the chat.

- In light of this passage, what is one act of obedience the Holy Spirit is calling you toward this week?
- · Is there one burden you need help shouldering?
- What is one prayer request you have for personal renewal?



For Individual or Household Worship

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020

#### GOD'S GOOD WORK COMPLETED

Paul's so amazed at God's work of salvation that he calls it a "good work." In his letter to the Philippians, Paul assures us that God will finish this good work of salvation, regardless of how it appears to us. Assured of God's faithfulness, believers may joyfully serve Him with our lives in the face of struggles and difficulties in this age.

## **READ: Philippians 1:6**

- What does Paul mean when he says God will complete the good work He began in them?
- How does such assurance that God always finishes the good work He's begun give us hope to live for Him regardless of our circumstances?
- Do you ever feel uncertain if God will faithfully finish His good work in you? How
  do you seek to finish on your own without His power? What is the result when
  you forget God is the faithful finisher?

## **PRAY**

- Thank God for the good work of salvation He's begun through Jesus.
- Confess ways you seek to "finish the good work" on your own power. Seek mercy, and rest in the hope of the Lord's fulfilling work accomplished according to His plan in His time.

**SING:** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," by Maranatha! Music (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErwiBz1QA4o)

For Individual or Household Worship

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020

#### **PRESS ON**

Knowing God finishes what He has begun, we now have confidence to press on to the prize of the upward call in Christ. Confident Jesus will come again in a glorious revealing, we forget what lies behind and strain toward what lies ahead - the prize of heaven.

## **READ: Philippians 3:12-16**

- What is the "future glory" that Paul is referring to in this passage (vv. 10-11).
- How do we "strain forward" to what lies ahead?
- As we consider what lies ahead for us (glory in Jesus), how does keeping our eyes
  on that goal help us to continue in the midst of uncertainty and struggle?

#### **PRAY**

- Ask the Lord to help you remember the glorious revealing of the Lord Jesus that is to come. Thank him for his grace and love toward you that you would be called his child and share with his son as an heir of all things.
- Consider ways you are struggling to press forward and continue in daily walking with Christ. Ask God to help you with these specific struggles and to give you hope.

**SING:** "Be Thou My Vision," from Together for the Gospel (Live) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clqdCXxqYvI)

For Individual or Household Worship

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2020

## PEACE IS FOUND IN GOD

Isaiah was a prophet of God to His people during a time when they had rebelled and questioned if God would complete His promises to them. Though their circumstances looked bleak, Isaiah reminds God's people that God is always in control and always at work. We, like the Israelites, need to find our trust and hope in Him regardless of our surrounding circumstances.

## READ: Isaiah 26:3-4

- Who is the "You" referring to in verse 3? Who is the "him?"
- What does it mean to keep your mind "stayed" on God?
- According to Isaiah, what is required of us in order to experience such "perfect peace?" (cf. Phil. 4:6-7)
- In what ways do you seek peace in the wrong places? What does it say about
   God that "perfect peace" can only be found in Him?

## **PRAY**

- Confess your sin of unbelief when you seek peace apart from God whether in relationships, finances, substances, or something else.
- Ask that God would enable your heart to trust Him in the midst of good times and bad times, that you would know His "perfect peace."

SING: "Like a River Glorious," Baptist Hymnal #58

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhLti2q0lCo)

With little children: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDBJNQiugnM)



For Individual or Household Worship

## THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020

#### THE LORD WILL FULFILL HIS PURPOSE FOR ME

In this Psalm, David faces great hardship yet gives thanks to the Lord for answering his call (v. 3). David testifies that God finishes what He's begun and is worthy of all of our praise.

## **READ: Psalm 138:7-8**

- What are man's circumstances in this passage? What is God's response?
- What is "purpose?" Look it up in a dictionary. Based on Philippians 1:6, what do we know about God's purpose and plan?
- Is there a time that you walked in the midst of trouble? How did God graciously deliver you?
- With this assurance that the Lord will not forsake the work of His hand (v. 8), how are you encouraged to press on (Phil 3:12-14) today?

## **PRAY**

- Pray verse 8 back to the Lord. Ask the Lord to fulfill His holy purpose in you today.
- Thank the Lord for His steadfast love and faithfulness. Proclaim to the Lord that his love is indeed better than life.

**SING:** "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name," by Keith & Kristyn Getty (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEfmqXQ7Gi0)



For Individual or Household Worship

## FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2020

## **BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM**

In the midst of accusation from the Pharisees, Jesus declares his eternal existence and deity when he says, "before Abraham was, I Am." Jesus declares His superiority to Abraham, whom the Jews honored above Jesus.

## **READ: John 8:48-59**

- To what Old Testament hero of faith do the Jews try to compare Jesus? Why would they choose to compare Jesus to this person?
- How do the Jews respond to His statement in v. 58?
- How is Jesus superior to Abraham?
- What do you think the significance of Jesus' statement was to the church in the 1st century AD? What significance does this statement have for the Church today?

## **PRAY**

- Praise and thank God for the truth of Christ's deity. Worship Christ as superior to all mankind.
- Consider the humility of Christ in this passage. Praise the Lord for this revelation of godliness. Pray for continued growth in godly character within your own life.

SING: "Great I Am," by New Life Worship

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2Yh4exnBU0)

## THIS WEEKEND, JUNE 6-7, 2020

This weekend, continue reading this passage alongside the "Prepare for Worship" article in preparation for Sunday's worship service. Consider the following questions as you read.

- What encourages you in this passage?
- What new thoughts stand out to you in this passage?

