



SO WHAT?!?

What if we believe that God *is* great and God *is* good? **So What?!?** What difference *does/should* that make that make in our daily decisions? Discover practical principles to start living what you say you're believing.

teachingnotes

Follow today's teaching notes, Scripture passages & more with your digital device (**wi-fi: Worship Center Guest**).

1. Find us on the **BIBLE APP**. Look for EVENTS and enable location OR input our ZIP: 32340 and click on our link.
2. Access PDF notes to teachings from: **bit.ly/PDFNotes**
3. Watch **FB Live** and **see all our notes** on Fellowship Church FB page: **facebook.com/fellowshipofmadison**
4. Check out our webpage: **FOM.life** for all kinds of info including over 400 teachings (audio & video).

* All Scripture is from NIV (New International Version) and CSB (Christian Standard Bible)

BIG TRUTH: We must BE LIVING what we say we're BELIEVING.

X It doesn't matter what you THINK if it doesn't make a difference in how you ACT. (e.g. getting in shape, become a better financial steward, pursuing God and relationships with others)

Catch the Context: Paul is imprisoned in Philippi (Roman fortress city), a place not friendly to the gospel message. Yet Paul knows God is at work as the good news of Jesus continues to spread there. Paul writes that his imprisonment has allowed the Gospel to be shared "throughout the whole imperial guard" and others have become bolder in sharing Jesus, despite the ungodly culture (Phil 1:12-14). Paul isn't sure what awaits him, 1) to die and be "with Christ" (Phil 1:23) or 2) continue his ministry on earth.

Philippians 1:27a (NIV) Whatever happens, **conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.**

Some commentators note the phrase most often translated "*conduct yourselves*" might be better translated as "*live properly as a citizen*" of heaven (cf. Phil 3:20). As citizens of heaven, Christians should be even more focused on living obedient to God than living obedient to Government.

There is a higher authority than Nero Caesar (the Emperor at that time), and *there is a higher authority than the POTUS*. Every knee will one day bow - including every Emperor and every President - to the God who made it all.

Philippians 2:10-11 (NIV) that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and **every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.

With this day in mind, followers of Jesus are to live like citizens of heaven and **conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.**

HUMBLE & CARING SERVANTS

Philippians 2:3-8 (NIV) Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, **in humility value others above yourselves**, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, **have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God**, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made himself nothing by **taking the very nature of a servant**, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled himself** by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

We demonstrate God is great & God is good by being **humble and caring servants** who treat others with value, as we follow the example of Jesus. Jesus, **Who being in very nature God** didn't cling to that lofty position, but **made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant**. Think about that: God, who created ALL things, became a servant and even gave His life for ours - the horrific death of a slave **on a cross**. Following the our humble Savior's example, we are to be **humble, caring servants** to all.

🔍 When's the last time YOU put the desires of someone else before you by sacrificing your time, popularity, & pride?

TAKE YOUR OWN NOTES HERE

PEACEFUL & OBEDIENT SERVANTS

Philippians 2:14-16a (NIV) Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, “**children of God without fault** in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will **shine among them like stars** in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life...

We are **peaceful servants** who do everything **without grumbling or arguing**. This doesn't mean we don't confront untruths with truth, but our desire is to live at peace with all, as much as it depends on us (Rm 12:18).

We are also to be **obedient servants**, expected to obey our Master (synonymous with “Lord”). **Obedient servants** who *KNOW* and *DO* what Jesus says, are going to stick out in our crumbling culture that doesn't *KNOW* and *DO* what Jesus says. Obedient servants of Jesus are to be a LIGHTS (**stars**) in our dark world - a purity that sets us apart from our disobedient culture.

❓ If the people who knew you were asked how you are different from most people in our culture, what would they say? Is there a difference in your attitude & actions, how you talk to people & treat people?

We must BE LIVING what we say we're BELIEVING.

JOYFUL & GENTLE SERVANTS

Philippians 4:4-5 (NIV) **Rejoice in the Lord always**. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let **your gentleness be evident to all**. The Lord is near.

1. Do you celebrate (**rejoice**) what God has done in your life, even in the tough times?
2. Are you known for being **gentle** to other people, as God has been gentle with you? (Or are you HARSH?)
3. **The Lord is near!** Everyday we are nearer to seeing Jesus (at His return or upon our death). Jesus lives in us through the Presence of His Holy Spirit & He lives among us as we remind one another of His promises.

PRAYERFUL & THANKFUL SERVANTS

Philippians 4:6-7 **Do not be anxious about anything**, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, **present your requests to God**. And the **peace of God**, which transcends all understanding, **will guard your hearts and your minds** in Christ Jesus.

Your current situation is NOT too big for our Great & Good God. He created everything out of nothing and created you in your mother's womb. **Call out to God!** Thank Him for His faithfulness in the past and trust Him to be faithful in the future! And experience **the peace of God!**

✪ That's exactly what **Daniel** did even after the King had signed a document that he refused to adhere to - a document forcing everyone to pray to the King for 30 days or be thrown into the lions' den (Dan 6:7-9). Daniel had a decision to make - disobey God or government. You think Daniel had something to be anxious about? Yep!

Daniel 6:10 (CSB) When Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went into his house. The windows in its upstairs room opened toward Jerusalem, and three times a day he got down on his knees, **prayed**, and **gave thanks to his God**, just as he had done before.

How could Daniel respond with this boldness? He knew & trusted that **God is Great and God is Good**.

The God who made everything - the God who had been faithful day after day after day - had not changed. Daniel trusted GOD while others started praying to the King.

Read the rest of the story. God shows up and protects Daniel in a miraculous way - and God's Name becomes honored like never before in that culture! What a powerful example for US, regardless of what the future holds!

God is Great and God is Good. Let's stop just saying it and start showing it.

We must BE LIVING what we say we're BELIEVING.

❓ Would your friends say that you *LIVE* what you say you *BELIEVE*? Would they say that they can see that God is Great and God is Good - through YOU?

TAKE YOUR OWN NOTES HERE

Let's live lives worthy of the Gospel (Phil 1:27a) as:

- **Humble & Caring Servants** who value other people created in the image of God (Phil 2:3-8).
- **Peaceful & Obedient Servants** who attempt live at peace with others, while living in the midst of our crumbling culture (Phil 2:14-16a).
- **Joyful & Gentle Servants** who know we are *LOVED, FORGIVEN, and MADE RIGHT* with the God of the Universe! Then boldly, yet gently, offer others the same forgiveness we have received, while trusting Jesus is with us as we look forward to His ultimate return (Phil 4:4-5).
- **Prayerful & Thankful Servants** seek God at all times - good or bad (Phil 4:6-7), not bowing our knee to anyone other than to the ONE whom ALL will one day bow before.

❓ **What if today were the day that Jesus returned?** Would you be ASHAMED or EXCITED?

FEET → 2 → FAITH

1. Get in the Scripture and seek God this week.
2. Pray & Obey throughout the day.
3. Make time with other believers.
4. *SHARE* Jesus as you *SERVE* others, with a prayerful and gentle attitude.

heretoserveyou

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

- * Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Justin** (704-618-6144), **Christy** (673-9764), or another follower of Jesus soon!
- * Or call our **deacons & wives**: Alan & Christy Androski (464-1428), Steve & Debbie Bass (673-7952), Tim & Joni Hughey (464-1156), Mark & Dot Mancil (253-5405), Boss & Amelia Mulkey (464-6717), Jim & Derita Pinkard (464-6188), Fain & Linda Poppell (464-1282), or Tom & Martha Waddail (973-0011).