

Joy in Pressure

Philippians 2

¹²...work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for **it is God who is at work in you**, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

• Justification - God making us <u>right</u> with Him.

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Glorification - one day we will be <u>perfected.</u>

• Justification - God making us right with Him. - Phil 3:9 - we have a "righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith." Glorification - one day we will be perfected. - Phil 3:21 - "Jesus...will transform the body of our lowly condition into conformity with His glorious body."

Sanctification - God forming us to be more and more like Christ.

We are righteous, so we live righteously.

Philippians 2

¹²...work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for **it is God who is at work in you**, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

God put His life in us, so we can live that life out.

We live between justification and glorification.













Before Jesus, we were useless.

Jesus takes the remnants of our previous life and shreds it.

But your story is not over.

God has a plan in mind.

Pressure will be needed to bring your story together

God has just begun writing your story!

Will you fully yield to God's work in your life?

Philippians 3

¹² Not that I have already grasped it all or have already become perfect, but I press on if I may also take hold of that for which I was even taken hold of by Christ Jesus. "I'm not perfect."

There are always new lessons to apply and new truths to understand.

We shouldn't expect perfection, but we should expect progress.

Philippians 3

¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not regard myself as having taken hold of it yet; but one thing I do: **forgetting what lies behind** and **reaching forward to what lies ahead**, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

You can't run holding both your past and your future at the same time.

Jesus died for your past. Jesus died for your shame. Jesus died for your freedom.

Philippians 3

¹⁵ Therefore, all who are mature, let's have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that to you as well; ¹⁶ however, let's keep living by that same standard to which we have attained. ¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

The book of your life will be read by others.

Mature Christians are at peace that they are not perfect and are still in process.

Mature Christians welcome the pressure God applies to their lives.

Immature Christians are not at peace with their imperfection.

Immature Christians shift blame instead of taking ownership.

Sanctification causes our lives to match our words.

Expert runners lean forward as they run.

