

Co-Workers Together with Christ

1. The Appeal to Work Out Our Salvation Is Based on Our New Identity.

2. We Are to Work Out What Christ Has Worked In.

3. Christ Has Finished His Work So That We Can Join Him in Ours.

CONCLUSION: This morning's passage contains an impassioned plea for the Philippian Christians (and us) to continue in obedience as co-workers with Christ and one another. It is grounded in what has gone before it, namely our identity in Christ, that has nothing to do with what we have done and everything to do with what Christ has accomplished. This work that we are called to do is the fruit of our salvation rather than the cause of it. This is so important especially in our culture's massive confusion about work. Let us delight in faithful obedience to Christ by bringing glory to God according to His purpose!

Psalm 100:1-5

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God! *It is he who made us, and we are his;*
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Colossians 1:9-14

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to *walk in a manner worthy of the Lord*, fully pleasing to him: *bearing fruit in every good work* and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

First Corinthians 12:4-11

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same *God who empowers them all in everyone*. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit *for the common good*. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. *All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.*

Galatians 3:1-6

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit *by works of the law* or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? *Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith—just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?*