

Philippians 2:5-18

5 You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

6 Though he was God,* he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.

7 Instead, he gave up his divine privileges* ; he took the humble position of a slave* and was born as a human being.

When he appeared in human form,*

8 he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

9 Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Shine Brightly for Christ

12 Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. **13** For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

14 Do everything without complaining and arguing, **15** so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. **16** Hold firmly to the word of life; then, on the day of Christ's return, I will be proud that I did not run the race in vain and that my work was not useless. **17** But I will rejoice even if I lose my life, pouring it out like a liquid offering to God,* just like your faithful service is an offering to God. And I want all of you to share that joy. **18** Yes, you should rejoice, and I will share your joy.

Questions:

1. How can Jesus be God?

2. Jesus humbled himself and was born as a human.

Was Jesus God and man at the same time? Explain

3. How is God working in the Philippians in verse 13?

Do you pray for God to give this desire and power?
What would that prayer look like?

4. Paul says in verse 12b: "Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear."

Can you earn your salvation from good works?

Or do we obey God out of reverence and respect for his grace and gift of salvation to us? Explain.

5. How can you shine as a bright light in your world?