

Week 5: The Work God will Complete

Overview: The Christian life has a promised finish line: God will complete His good work in us. Students will explore the hope of eternity, the promise of transformation, and the strength Christ gives for every circumstance.

Key Scripture: Philippians 3:10-11, 20-21; 4:4-13

CONTENT

Key Takeaway: God finishes what He starts – your future is secure, and your hope is unshakeable.

Chapter 3 & 4 Overview: Philippians ends with themes of joy, perseverance, heavenly perspective, and confidence in God's future promises. Paul wants believers to anchor themselves in eternal hope. These passages we're studying today combine two themes: future hope and present strength.

Future hope: Paul desires to know Christ deeply, experience his resurrection power, press on toward the day when Jesus returns, and be transformed into Christ's likeness. He reminds them that they are citizens of heaven, that Christ will return, and the God will transform their lowly bodies into glorious ones.

Present strength: Paul calls the Philippians to rejoice always, replace anxiety with prayer, practice contentment, depend on Christ's strength, and to think about what is true, noble, and pure. Note – he's writing this all from prison! This furthers the point that joy and hope are not circumstantial.

Key Points

- Glorification: when Jesus returns and finishes His work by making us completely new forever
 - There will be no more sin, pain, brokenness, insecurity, or fear
- We have a secure future and eternal hope (3v20)
 - Heaven is our true home. We often feel stuck in the pressure of “now” – but the gospel gives long-term hope and perspective. This gives us hope in hard seasons.
 - How would we live differently if we remembered heaven is our home?
 - What fears or insecurities might change when viewed in light of eternity?
- Jesus will transform us completely (3v21)
 - One day we'll be fully restored – physically, emotionally, and spiritually. There will be no more sin, struggle, insecurity, shame, comparison, anxiety, or pressure.
- Rejoice (4vv4-5)
 - Paul's command “rejoice” is rooted not in circumstances, but in Christ's nearness
- Jesus gives us strength today (4vv11-13)
 - “I can do all things through Christ” is not about winning games but enduring every circumstance with Christ's strength

- Christ gives strength to endure every circumstance – not to win every challenge, but to remain faithful through every challenge
- Challenge: memorize Phil 4:13 in context: contentment, not achievement.

Gospel Application: The God who began the work and continues the work will finish the work. He saves, strengthens, sustains, and secures us forever. God completes what He starts – we have an unshakeable future and daily strength.

Key Question: What part of your life do you need to entrust to the God who finishes what He starts?

APPLICATION

Activity Suggestions

- Open up your Bibles and read Philippians 3:10-4-13 together.
- Encourage students to memorize Phil 4:13 in context for next week! When they memorize the verse, also ask them what it means in context.
- Take a moment to google The Bible Project's summary of Philippians video and send it to students to watch or watch together in group! Use this as a recap tool

Community Group Questions

- Share one win that happened in your week!
- What is glorification, in your own words?
- What parts about the concept of glorification confuse you? How can we help in your confusion?
- What part of your life do you need to entrust to the God who finishes what He starts?