

WEDNESDAY

WEEK 2

READ & OBSERVE

- Philippians 2:12-13
- Exodus 20:18
- 1 Corinthians 3:16
- historical context (next pages)

INTERPRET & APPLY

- How does the mindset of the Messiah (v. 5-11) shape what Paul asks of the Philippians in v. 12-13?
- Where do you need to experience the empowering presence of God in a fresh way?

"WORKING OUT" YOUR SALVATION

It was the promise of the Roman empire that they could offer salvation or rescue. Paul is not saying that God's people can "earn" or "work for" their salvation; rather he says that as people who are defined by the mindset of the Messiah just described in v. 5-11, they must 'work it out' as they would a math problem-- to "figure out" what that looks like practically in their lives. They're not to look to and rely upon a human government, or even a physical temple of worship, because it is God who now *lives in* them and *works in* them to fulfill his purposes.

HISTORICAL
CONTEXT

JESUS, PASSOVER, & TEMPLE IMAGERY

The early church knew Jesus was crucified at Passover, a celebration of when the Lord used Moses to lead His people out of slavery in Egypt, which is when they also received 1) the law, and 2) the tabernacle. The tabernacle served as a model for the temple later built in Jerusalem. It was there that the presence of the Lord was made manifest, and God dwelled with His people. Fear and trembling is what fell on people when they realized God was in a place. In Phil. 2:12-13, Paul reminds believers that those who have the mindset of Christ are themselves a temple where God's very presence dwells.



HISTORICAL

CONTEXT