

Family TableTalk

Conversation 10

What Should Christians Do?

read

Philippians 2:12-13

think

It doesn't take long to conclude that students are supposed to study, athletes are supposed to compete, and actors are supposed to put on a show that will keep the attention of an audience. Have you ever wondered what Christians are supposed to do? The Apostle Paul answers this question in Philippians 2:12-13 by writing that they are supposed to work out their own salvation.

Now, it is crucial to remember that Christians don't work in order to earn their salvation. Only Jesus can do the work necessary to save someone. It is also important not to overlook the little three-letter word "own" which is used in verse 12 to describe each person's salvation. You are not automatically a Christian because you were born into a Christian family or have attended church for many years. However, once someone has put their faith in Christ and become a part of the family of God, Paul urges them to get to work.

How does a Christian work? Historically, an answer to this question would be to describe the spiritual disciplines. These involve Bible reading, prayer, church involvement, fasting, and serving - to name a few. Christians grow closer to God and can more effectively serve others as they engage with God through these disciplines. We must also read verse 13 that helps us understand that this is God's work that we have an active role in. If God is not at work within us, then we will not be able to work out our salvation.

Let us redeem this time that we have been given at home during this COVID-19 pandemic by growing closer to God using these spiritual disciplines.

apply

- Which of the spiritual disciplines do you want to put into practice this week?
- Who are people that you haven't seen in a long time that you can pray for this week?
- How can you prepare to practice the spiritual disciplines after COVID-19 is over?

pray

Lord, thank you for your Word that teaches us how to grow as Christians. Give us wisdom so that we can use our time wisely for personal growth and the encouragement of others!

by Kyle Hoffsmith

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