



UNlimited

A Study of the Book of Philippians

Two Ditches:

- “It’s not getting any easier”

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- “It’s not getting any easier”
- “I just need to try harder”

An Expectation Question:

Am I confusing “soaring”
with “coasting?”

Philippians 2

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Paul's Over-all Concern

“... conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ ...”

[1:27]

Paul's Over-all Concern

“... conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ ...” [1:27]

“... Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completing until the day of Jesus Christ.” [1:6]

Philippians 2:12-18

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

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- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for
 - You're ***not*** responsible for 'everything'
 - It's ***not*** all up to you!

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

Therefore my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation in fear and trembling ...

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

*Therefore my dear friends, as you have always **obeyed** – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation in fear and trembling ...*

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

All Scripture is God-breathed, and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

Jesus and Obeying:

"My food is to do the will of him who sent me ... to accomplish his work"

John 4:34

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

Jesus and Obeying:

"I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me ..."

John 6:38

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

Jesus and Obeying:

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love ... Keep my commands

John 15:9, 10, 14

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

Jesus and Obeying:

... Became obedient to death – even death on a cross

Philippians 2:8

How to Work Smarter

- 1) Know what you're responsible for & what you're not responsible for

Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts”

Jeremiah 16:16

How to Work Smarter

2) What God does to make my work do-able

How to Work Smarter

2) What God does to make my work do-able

*For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith – and, this is not from yourselves,
it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no
one can boast*

Ephesians 2:8,9

How to Work Smarter

2) What God does to make my work do-able

Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his purpose.

How to Work Smarter

2) What God does to make my work do-able

- God frees me from having to work for his approval ... for my status in him

How to Work Smarter

2) What God does to make my work do-able

- God frees me from having to work for his approval ... for my status in him

I can now work from my status, not for my status ... I can work at ... with my salvation

For Reflection

Is there something you've been avoiding ...
denying ... hiding ... faking ... flaunting ...
because to own them is just not do-able ...
You know you'd fail?

How to Work Smarter

2) What God does to make my work do-able

... For God is at work in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his purpose ..

How to Work Smarter

2) What God does to make my work do-able

- God works in me to increase our desire to want to please him.

*... For God is at work in you **to will** and to act in order to fulfill his purpose ..*

For Prayer

“Lord, in light of the overwhelming greatness of your love ... the cost of your grace ... I will make it more important to me to please you than please/fulfill myself. Help me love you more.”

How to Work Smarter

2) What God does to make my work do-able

- The Holy Spirit in me empowers me to do God's will, & not act on urges that are not God's will

... For God is at work in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his purpose ..

How to Work Smarter

What hasn't turned out like I wanted	How I developed through them	How else might I have developed	What other ways might I still develop

3 Key “Smart Work” Indicators

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Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves ... not looking to your own interests, but each of you to the interests of others.

[2:3-5]

3 Key “Smart Work” Indicators

Do everything without grumbling or arguing so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation

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1) Grace-filled relationships

*Do everything without grumbling or arguing so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault *in* a warped and crooked generation*

3 Key “Smart Work” Indicators

2) Change from “rock star” to “shining star”

Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life.

3 Key “Smart Work” Indicators

3) Sacrifice joyfully for the One who gave his life

And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain ... I am glad and rejoice with all of you. So you too should be glad and rejoice with me

Why work hard?

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose”

- Jim Elliot

Why work hard?

“It’s possible to have a saved soul and a wasted life”

- Nicky Gumbel