

The ones that're lem- ned away When friends used to be done But they were cakes Very nice to eat And I was like ...so you would never miss any
When the fire is going 90 If I don't cry ao parad things Amen.
We continue worshipping God. We're going to sing the hymn, Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life.

[13 : 38] And you, let's stand to sing, please. Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew, That I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou would do.

Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is new, Until with Thee I will and will to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly Thine, Until this earthly part of me flows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die, But live with Thee the perfect life of Thy eternity. I wonder if we can turn to God's Word now in the book of Philippians, chapter 2, And we'll read verses from verse 1 to verse 18.

[15 : 52] Philippians, chapter 2, reading from the beginning of the chapter. That's why we're looking that up. I really thank you for your fellowship, for your prayers for us, And I would just ask that you would pray for Jeff and Sarah.

They're the new workers in the Highland District That have now actually moved to the Black Isle. The mission have been able to secure a house there. And they've just moved up, but they've just gone away to Orkney To run children's holiday clubs all of this week, Monday to Friday.

They'll be running a club in Firth in the mornings, And then in Stromness each afternoon. And so they're up there with the family, the six children.

And I know that they would really value prayer As they seek to minister, to reach out to the children in those areas. Thank you so much.

Philippians, chapter 2, verse 1. So if there is any encouragement in Christ, Any comfort from love, Any participation in the Spirit, Any affection and sympathy, Complete my joy by being of the same mind, Having the same love, Being in full accord, And of one mind.

[17 : 17] Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, But in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, But also to the interests of others.

Having this mind among yourselves, Which is yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, Did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, But emptied himself, By taking the form of a servant, Being born in the likeness of men, And being found in human form, He humbled himself by becoming obedient, To the point of death, Even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him, And bestowed on him the name that is above every name, So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, In heaven and on earth and under the earth, And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, To the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, As you have always obeyed, So now, Not only as in my presence, But much more in my absence, Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, For it is God who works in you, Both to will and to work, For his good pleasure.

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, That you may be blameless and innocent, Children of God without blemish, In the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, Among whom you shine as lights in the world, Holding fast to the word of life, So that in the day of Christ, I may be proud that I did not run in vain, Or labor in vain, Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering, Upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

[19 : 35] Likewise, you also should be glad And rejoice with me. Amen. And we pray that God would bless to us The reading of his own precious word.

Let's again sing, This time words from Psalm 119, Verses 9 to 17, To God's praise.

O can the young keep their life pure, By doing what your word demands, I sing you with my heart and soul, Let me not stray from your commands, Your word I've hidden in my heart, To keep me from offending you, Praise be to you, O Lord my God,

Teach me your actions firm and true, Each law proceeding from your back, I gladly with my lips of toll, I love to follow your commands, As others love to count their gold, I meditate upon your ways, And on your respects I reflect,

I take delight in your decrees, Your word I never will neglect, Do good to me and I will live, Your servant will obey your word, Open my eyes that I may see, Great wonders in your love, O Lord.
[22 : 58] Beautiful words, These and as we were singing them, I was just thinking, If only I could have that heart's desire That the psalmist had, For his love, For the Lord, For his commands, For his law, For his word, To have that in our hearts, May God help us.

Let's pray. Lord, we do thank you for your word, The word that we have been singing, How we were being brought to think about, The love that we should have for your commands, Your law that we would be meditating upon, Your word, your works.

And as we do that, Help us to know all distractions taken away from us. Help us as we consider your word, That we would know the help of the Holy Spirit, And that you would guide us, And speak to us.

And as another has prayed, That you would make the book live to us. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen. I want to consider some words from the passage that we've looked at, In Philippians chapter 2, And particularly this section from verse 12, Where it says, Therefore, my beloved, As you have always obeyed, So now not only as in my presence, But much more in my absence, Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

For it is God who works in you, Both to will and to work, For his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing, That you may be blameless and innocent, Children of God without blemish, In the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, Among whom you shine, As lights in the world, Holding fast to the word of life.

[25 : 18] It is said of this book, It is where you can find the secret of true happiness, And to find that secret is truly amazing, True happiness.

And of course, for so many, The search is on, But for the majority, They never get to that place of discovering, Finding true happiness.

Of course, true happiness Can only be found in Christ Jesus, And of course, He is to be found in this amazing book, Yes, in this book of Philippians, But in the Bible itself.

Thinking tonight, Just a little bit, Simply about living to please God, And that's always a challenge for us, But for God's people, That's what's required of us, In our Christian lives.

And of course, It's all by God's grace, We can't live for him at all, Of ourselves. But it's all of his grace, And it's all because of what he has done for us, That he enables us to live for him.

[26 : 44] But it's only when, By his grace, We're enabled to be in that place, That we will know this happiness, This contentment, That's spoken about in his word.

As Paul himself said in chapter 4, verse 11, Not that I am speaking of being in need, For I have learned in whatever situation, I am to be content.

It's quite something, isn't it? In this day and age, Where there's so much discontentment, When it seems that people get upset, About so little, And yet, When we read God's word, And when we discover the reality of it for ourselves, As Paul did, In whatever situation he said, Whether in want or whether in plenty, I've learned the secret of contentment.

And in this passage, Where we read that Paul, He had much good to say about the church in Philippi. But he's also detecting that there's a tendency, In the church, Although there's so much good, That that tendency is to depend, A bit too much on Paul.

And he's, Obviously very influential in the church. You know, If Paul was in the fellowship, People might naturally just look to him.

[28 : 27] And he was a great example. He would have been an example of humility. He had a great knowledge. He would have been an example of how He gave himself to the work of the Lord.

He would have had wise counsel, And so we could go on. But he is reminding them, That they need to be totally dependent upon Christ.

And not on any one person. And we can have that tendency, Can't we? To, To, To, To look to someone, Whether it be the minister, Or whether it be an elder, Whether it be someone, And, And, God has given us all gifts.

It doesn't matter who we are. We've all got gifts. And he wants, Us to use, The gifts that he has given us, For him. Because we're workers together.

And, Paul is reminding the church here in Philippi, You need to, Look, Have your eyes fixed, On him. And not on any person.

[29 : 44] He's saying, Work out your own salvation, With fear and trembling. What does this mean, To work out your own salvation?

This letter, As we know, From the beginning, It's addressed to all the saints, In Philippi. And, This part that we look to it, Begins, Therefore, My beloved.

Those, Who are being addressed here, Are those who are loved by Jesus. And indeed, Loved by Paul as well. So it's not meaning, Obviously, That, Somehow we can, Work out through our own effort, To become, People that would be acceptable to Christ.

It doesn't mean that at all, Because we can't do that. We know that. So what, What's it talking about then, When it means, When it's saying to, To work out our own salvation?

What do we have to, To work out? Well, The verse reminds us, That it's what God is working in. We work out, What God is working in.

[30 : 59] And, It's a life's work. It goes on to the finish, Until we reach, The finishing line. There's a work going on.

And, And we have to work out, What God is working in. You see, Knowing, The word, We could know the word, The very best.

But unless that word, Has been worked out, In our lives, Then, Knowing it is not, All that's required, Obviously. We know in the word of God, That we have, To love one another.

But is there someone, That that love, Is just not, What it should be. We know from God's word, That we have to forgive.

Is there some situation, And we have not, Really forgiven. We're holding on to it. Brothers, In Philippians 3.13, It says, I do not consider, That I have made it my own, But one thing I do, Forgetting what lies behind, And straining forward, To what lies ahead.

[32 : 20] Forgetting, What lies behind. Is there something, In the past, That that's talking about, Holding on to things, That are, Keeping us in the past.

Preventing us from moving on, With Christ. Is there something there, And it's preventing us, From moving on. Could be a number of things.

But we're told to work out, God's truth, God's word. As God is working it in, To our lives. In Philippians 4.8, We read, Finally, Brothers, Whatever is true, Whatever is honorable, Whatever is just, Whatever is pure, Whatever is lovely, Whatever is commendable, If there is any excellence, If there is anything, Worthy of praise, Think about, These things.

I remember, I referred to, David Patterson, This morning, I want to refer to, A sermon, He preached, Nearing his retirement, In Perth.

He preached from that verse, And he took the word, Lovely, And, His text was, Whatsoever things are lovely, Think on these things.

[33 : 50] That was a most helpful sermon, Because we don't always, Let's be honest, We're not always thinking, On the things that are lovely, Are we?

But it's a great reminder, When we're not, And that verse, Comes to me, That David preached, All these years ago, Whatsoever things are lovely, Think on these things.

And that's a help, When we're thinking, On things that are not so lovely, And our minds, Are not thinking the way, That God would want, Them to be thinking.

Our thoughts, Are not always on, Lovely things, They're not always pure, But, That's what we're told, In this part of God's word, To work, These things out, Working out, What God is working in, Will always be lovely, Because it's his word, It's his truth, It's his will, It's his way, And, It's not just in part, We, We, We can take the parts, That, That suit us, Can't we?

We can take the parts, That perhaps, We can work out, But, Sometimes we have to work out, Things that, Maybe goes against the grain, A wee bit, They're not so easy, To work out, There's situations, Perhaps, That we need to, To sort, That, There are people, Maybe we need to go to, That, There are times in our lives, We really have to humble ourselves, And just, Just get down there, And, And, And work things out, The way that God, Wants us to work them out, So it's in every, In every part, When we had a little dog, We used to have a, If we had a, A steak pie, For example, And, We would clean the, The dish as good as we could, But when we give it to the dog, My word, All the wee bits that we couldn't get,

[36 : 08] He got, And he would lick away at it, Until there was no steak pie left, He, One commenter mentioned it, Likened it to, To working out of, Of a mine, All the precious ore possible, What God is working in, We need to be working, Out, You see, Our wee dog, Sam, He just loved,

The leftover steak pie, So much, He didn't want to leave, Any of it in the dish, Can we say, With the psalmist, That we were just singing about, We just love, The Lord, And, We love his ways, We meditated upon his truth, So much, We don't want, We don't want, To leave any of it out, We want to be as, As like Jesus,

As we possibly can, As the psalmist said, Oh, How I love your law, It is my meditation, All the day, In verse, One, Six, Five, It says, Great peace, Have those, Who love your law, Nothing, Can make them, Stumble, Of course, This love, Is, Shown, By doing, Isn't it, If we, If we say, We love, Someone, How, How do we show, That love, We, We show it, By doing, Don't we, It's not enough, Just to say, Well, I love you, But, We, We have to show, That love, We have to, Demonstrate that love, In our lives, The psalmist said, I love the Lord, And if we say, Tonight, I love the Lord, Are we working it out, Are we showing it, In our lives, And as I said, At the beginning, You know, We can only, It's only, Through his, Enabling, That we can do it, We, We can't do that, Of ourselves, But we can rejoice, In him, That he works, In us, Work out your own, Salvation, With fear and trembling, For it's God, That works, In you, Doesn't say, He works, For you, There's still a work, To be done, The Christian life, Was never about, Sitting back, And just, Waiting for it all, To happen, But God says, He, He works in us, Both to will, And to do, For his good pleasure, And that's a powerful work, And sometimes, We can overlook, These things, The work of God, Is a powerful work, It's the same word, Seemingly, That we get our word, Energy from, It's powerful, It's a powerful work, That brought us, From darkness, Into light, Wasn't it?

When we were, When we were dead, In trespasses, And in sins, Yet, But God, Made us alive, In Christ Jesus, That was a, A miracle, Of God's, Grace and power, And it's a, Powerful work too, That God works in us, That we, For his will, That we can work out, What he's working into us, For his good pleasure, According to his will, One commentator said, He's a very quaint writer, I don't know if you've come across him, If you can read his stuff, It's absolutely lovely, Robert Hawker, Is his name, I just love reading, Little quotes, And what he has to say, He says, He worketh in me, To show me, My total, Helplessness, In myself, And my complete,

[40 : 31] All sufficiency, In Christ, He worketh in me, To show me, My total, Helplessness, In myself, And my complete, All sufficiency, In Christ, Work out, Your own salvation, With fear, And trembling, With fear, And trembling, Well, It's not the kind of fear, And trembling, That we would know, Like, The world, Might, Bring us to that place, I remember, In school, That was, A long time ago, That's when, Teachers would give you, The belt, And it would be sore, And we had a, Maths teacher, And my word, Whenever this lady, Got a new class, She put fear, Into every new class, She had, And she told us afterwards, She was a lovely lady, She told us afterwards,

That she did that, For the first few periods, And she said, She never had any bother, With anyone, After that, Sometimes, She would take you, Out to the board, And you would just be there, In fear, And trembling, And fear, And trembling, In case you would, Give the wrong answer, But so, So much in fear, That you couldn't even think, To give the right answer, It's not like that, See, God is not like that, You see, God is, He's gentle, And he's kind, And, He's there, He lifts us up, And he knows that, Yeah, We're going to fall down, He knows that, We're going to mess up, He knows that, We're not always, Going to get it right, But we need to keep, Short accounts with God, And you know, Isn't he there, To lift us up, When we fall down, You know, It's that, Surely talking about, That humble,

That careful attitude, That would make us, Careful that we want, To do the right thing, We want to do, What's right, And pleasing, To God, Because it's for his, Good pleasure, In Psalm 119, It says, How, We were singing these words, How can a young man, Keep his way pure, By guarding it, According to your word, With my whole heart, I seek you, Let me not wander, From your commands, I have stored up, Your word in my heart, That I might not sin, Against you, Give me understanding, That I may keep your law, And observe it, With my whole heart, Lead me in the path, Of your commandments, For I delight, In it, Of course, In the Lord's prayer, We have, Your will be done, On earth, As in heaven, And it talks about, Leading us, Not into temptation, But delivering us, From evil, Well, We know that, God doesn't lead people, Into temptation, But surely, This is reminding us, And speaking to us, In the way that, Lord, Forbid, That I would wander, Into temptation, Lord, Keep me from, From straying, We're, We're prone to stray, We're prone to wander, We're, We're prone to sin, Lord, Keep me, Keep me from that, I know someone, Christian, Person, That, Had a problem, With alcohol, And,

Was doing really well, Going on well, With the Lord, Bright, But he told me, One day, He was in the supermarket, In a queue, Waiting to get to the checkout, And he looked beside him, And what was on the shelves, Beside him, Just a half bottle of vodka, And his hand went out, And reached out for it, And you know, He was in a bad way, Lord, Lead me not, Into temptation, What, What one of us, Is strong enough, To say, That would never happen to me, Or lest I fall, You see, Contentment is found by, By delighting in him, That our desires,

[45 : 39] Would be towards him, That our desires, Would be pleasing to him, Of course, We have his own son, When he said, This is my son in him, I am well, Pleased, Work out your own salvation, With fear and trembling, For it is God, Who works in you, Both to will and to do, For his, Good pleasure, Do all things, Without grumbling, Or disputing, Grumbling or disputing, If we like a good moan, Don't we, Things are not suiting us, We're prone to have a, A bit of a moan, And a grumble, We can be just like that, To our shame, Can't we, But here we're told, Not to be like that, It's not the way it should be, Because, What God is working in our lives, Is good things, And, The work of God, Is a good work, It's his word,

It's his will, It's his way, And we're not to do it, Grudgingly, We're not to do it, By disputing, But we're to do it, Willingly, Whatever it mightn't always be, The best of jobs, It mightn't always be, The kind of things, That we would want to do, But if God is showing us, Through his word, And if we know, This is what God wants me to do, Then, We should do it, We should do it happily, Willing, With the joy of the Lord, Because the joy of the Lord, Is our strength, I remember, A minister saying to me one time, I'm not going to mention who it was, Or any names, A minister saying to me one time, He was looking for someone to, Take a prayer meeting, And he says to me, He used to call me Don, Don, He said, I know, There are people here,

That could take the prayer meeting, And they could do it well, But he said, A willing person, Is worth far more, Are we, Are we a willing people, You know, That's what he's saying here, Do all things without grumbling, Or disputing, Let's be willing, A willing person, Is worth far more, Doing it right away, Without disputing, Sometimes we might know, That God is, Speaking to us in some way, But we're delaying, We're saying, We're really saying, No, Not just now Lord, But maybe down the line a bit, Maybe, Maybe at another time, No, If God is speaking to us, And, He's saying, Do it willingly, And, Without delay, Wonder, Is the word speaking to someone, Speaks to me, God is speaking, And you just know, That God has been saying, Something to you, And, And you're putting it off, Do all things without grumbling, Or disputing, Do it now, You see, There's joy, And there's contentment, In obedience, Verse 15 says, That you may be blameless, And innocent, Children of God, Without blemish, In the midst of a crooked, And twisted generation, Among whom you shine as lights, In the world, Blameless and innocent, You say, Oh, The standard is high, Isn't it?

You say, Well, We can never achieve this, On this side of eternity, That's impossible, We're blameless, And innocent, We know, We won't be perfect, On this side of eternity, We know that, But, Nothing less, Should be our aim, Remember, It's not about, It's not about, What we can do, It's not about, What you can do, Or I can do, In my strength, But it's, About what, He can do, Through a life, That's surrendered, To him, That's given over, To him, So him says, I surrender all, Much easier, Sung, Than done, All to Jesus, I surrender, Blameless,

[50 : 40] No one can point, The finger justly, No one could say, Do you hear, What he said, Or hear, What she said, Did you see, What that person did, You know, This is talking about, That no one, Can point the finger, Justly, Sandy Roger, Is a, Former principal, Of the, The Bible college, He spoke at a, A faith mission rally, Recently at, At Greyfriars church, In, Inverness, And he said, Something like this, I can't remember, Just word for word, The quote, But it was something like this, Most of the problems, In the church, Come about, Through people, Whose lives are not, Fully surrendered, To God, I want to take you to, Psalm, 101, Just for, A minute or two, The psalm is said here,

In, Psalm 101, At verse two, I will ponder the way, That is blameless, Oh, When will you come to me, I will walk with, Integrity of heart, Within, My house, Ponder the way, That is blameless, A blameless life, I will walk with, Integrity of heart, A blameless heart, And then in verse six, It says, I will look with favor, On the faithful, In the land, That they may dwell, With me, He who walks the way, That is blameless, Shall minister, To me, A blameless life, A blameless heart, And a blameless, Walk, He whose walk, Is blameless, Will minister, To me, This blameless, It speaks of being innocent,

And it speaks of, That there is nothing, Hidden, That there is no hidden agendas, Unmixed, Open, Wonderful qualities, For the church meetings, For the deacons court, For the session meetings, To be open, That there is nothing hidden, There is no hidden agendas, Not doing harm, But seek to do good, That you may be blameless, And innocent, Children of God, Without blemish, In the midst of a crooked, And twisted generation, Among whom, You shine as lights, In the world, In this day, That we live in, If any impression, Is going to be made for God, Needs to be made, By people, Who are willing, By God's grace, To live this kind of life, He's looking for people, Who will shine for him, In the midst, We live in a crooked, And twisted generation, When you go out, Into the night sky, And on a frosty evening, You look up into the sky, You can see all the stars, Bright against the dark sky, Wonder, Are we those kind of people, Who would shine brightly, In the midst of a crooked, And twisted generation, His divine power, Is granted to us, All things that pertain to life, And godliness, Through the knowledge of him, Who called us, To his own glory, And excellence, You see, It's him, It's his divine power, But we have all that we need,

He has granted to us, All things that pertain to life, And godliness, And we're calling out to him, Because he alone equips for service, When we, We speak to people about, Sometimes about trying to help people, Who might be seeking, The Lord, And maybe would, Just a desire to come, To be saved, To be a Christian, We sometimes say to people, Well, You know, God won't accept you in part, You can't, Think that you can give part to God, And keep part for yourself, If you're going, To become a born again believer, You must be willing, To surrender everything to him, To give your life, Completely to him, To hand it all over to him, Your sin and everything, Is handed over to him, You become his, But that continues,

[55 : 48] Doesn't it? Down the road, Does he still have all of me? Does he still have all of you?

You see, This is the kind of people, That God wants us to be, We're weak people, We're helpless people, But given over to him, Like the little boy, He just gave his lunch, Whatever he had, He put it in the hand of Jesus, And just the little that we have, That we are, That we can give, Just given over to him, He can use it, For his glory, He talks about, In the midst of a crooked, And twisted, Generation, Among whom you shine, As lights in the world, Holding fast, To the word of life, So that, In the day of Christ, I may be proud, That I did not run, In vain, Or labor, In vain, Even if I have been poured out, As a drink offering,

Upon the sacrificial offering, Of your faith, I am glad, And I rejoice, With all, Of you, That I may be proud, Or I may rejoice, He, Paul could rejoice, In the lives, Of these, Philippian believers, And he knew that, Even in the face of persecution, Or even in the face of death, He had no regrets, He said, I will rejoice, Therefore, My brothers, Beloved brothers, In 1 Corinthians 15, 58, Be steadfast, Immovable, Always abounding, In the work of the Lord, Knowing, Knowing, That in the Lord, Your labor, Is never, In vain, Lord, We pray, That you would, Bless, Your word, What's of you, To us, Lord, We ask for forgiveness, For, So often we,

We're so, Poor at, Serving you, And, Living for you, The kind of lives, That you want us to live, Lord, We want to, Come before you, And we confess that, But Lord, We, We have a desire, In our hearts, That we, We would be better, But, Lord, We know that, We cannot be better, Of ourselves, So we appeal, To you, Our father in heaven, For, You to help us, To lift us up, Because it's your work, It's, It's your power, It's energy, From you, That will enable us, To do, The work that you want us to do, But Lord, Make us a willing people, Because a willing people, Will come to you, In the day of your power, And help us to serve you, Well together, That we would be, A united people, Lord, If there are things, In our lives tonight, That we know,

They're falling short of, What you require of us, They're going against your word, Lord, We pray that, By your grace, We would be cleansed, We would bring them to you, That we would know, That cleansing, That we could move on, We could move forward, To know that joy, And contentment, There is in obedience, In serving you, Help us to be a people, Who will stand out, Help us to be a people, That will shine bright for you, In these dark days, That we live in, We do live, In dark spiritual days, But Lord, You are, Appealing to us, In your word, To be those, Who will shine, That we would be, Holding fast, To the word of life, Your word, You are the way, You are the truth, You are the life, Oh Lord, Help us to hold fast, To what you have given to us,

[60 : 08] And to be found, Looking more and more to you, Oh Lord, We want to be used by you, We want to be a people, Whom the world, Will look at, And say, And know that we are different, That people wouldn't see us, But that they would see, Jesus in us, So help us, We pray, Bless your word, Bless the word, As it goes out tonight, In many different places, We pray, That this might be,

A great night, A great evening, For the gospel, And for your word, Going forth, That many lives, To be touched, And changed, And that we would give you, All the praise, And all the glory, In Jesus name, Amen, We're going to sing, Our closing praise, And it's the hymn, Have thine own way, Have thine own way, Thou art the potter, I am the clay, Mould me, And make me, After thy will, While I am waiting,

Yield it, And still, Are we willing, For that work of God, In our lives, That moulding, That making, That shaping, After his will, May God help us, Let's stand, And sing, This closing praise, Have thine own way, Lord, Have thine own way, Thou art the potter, I am the clay, Mould me, And make me, After thy will, While I am waiting, Yield it, And still, Have thine own way, Lord, Have thine own way, Search me and try me,

Master, Today, Whiter than snow, Lord, Wash me just now, As in thy presence, Humbly I bow, Have thine own way, Lord, Have thine own way, Wounded and weary, Help me, I pray, Power, Oh, Power, Surely is thy, Touch me and heal me, Savior, Divine, Have thine own way, Lord, Have thine own way, Bold are my being, Absolute sway, Filled with thy spirit, Till all shall see, Christ only, Always living in me. And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, And the love of God, And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with you all.

Amen. Amen.