I**. Introduction**

A. This section of Phil. 2:12-20 is written after Paul’s great description of Jesus as Servant and Lord in Phil. 2:6ff.

1. Jesus is model of servant.

2. Jesus is Lord.

3. The Christian is called to “put on the mind” of Christ.

4. The Christian’s identity is “beloved” of:

a. the Father

b. of one another

c. of Paul’s affection

II. **Five hindrances to sustaining a heart of happiness**

1.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_about one’s salvation.

*You must continue to WORK OUT your salvation with fear and trembling,* (with deep reverence & humility) *for it is God who WORKS IN you both to will and to act according to his good purpose.”*  Phil. 2:12-13 (NIV)

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and complaining with our words and attitude.

*Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that no one can speak a word of blame against you.”*  Phil. 2:14-15a

*“In everything give thanks; for this is God’s Will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1Thess. 5*

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_attachments to values and priorities of the world.

*You are to live clean and pure lives as children of God in a broken and corrupted generation. You are to shine like stars, lighting up a dark world!”* Phil. 2:15

*“HAPPY are those who live pure lives, who follow the Lord's teaching, keep his rules, and who try to obey him with their whole heart.”* Psalm 119:1-2 (NCV)

*“What happiness for those whose guilt has been forgiven! What joys when sins are covered over! What relief for those who have confessed their sins and God has cleared their record!”* Psalm 32:1-2 (LB)

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to the word of life, the word of God.

*Hold tightly to the Word of Life ...”* Phil. 2:16

*“Your principles make me HAPPY, so I never forget your Word.”* Psalm 119:16 (GW)

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_with the use of one’s life and relationship to the Lord and his people.

*“Your faith makes you offer your lives as a sacrifice in serving God. If I have to offer my own blood as a sacrifice, I will be happy and full of joy. And you should be happy and full of joy with me too!”*  Phil. 2:17-18 (NCV)

III. **Five practices to sustain happiness**.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_by working out and making continual progress with salvation.

“All the Christian faithful, of whatever state or rank, are called to the fullness of the Christian life and to the perfection of charity.” (St. John Paul II).

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in good works.

“Perfection consists in doing his will, in being what He wills us to be…who resists His grace in nothing.” (Theresa of Lisieux).

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_use of speech.

“It is not enough, I say, to guard one’s tongue from these and similar kinds of nastiness; even slight offences must be avoided, if anything may be termed slight that is directed against a brother for the purpose of hurting him, since merely to be angry with one’s brother makes one liable to the judgment of God.” St. Bernard

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in the word of God.

“A great aid to going against your will is to bear in mind continually how all is vanity and how quickly everything comes to an end. This helps to remove our attachments to trivia and center it on what will never end.” Theresa of Avila

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in service to others.

“The works of good Christians are of such worth that heaven is given us for them; but it is not because they proceed from us and are the wool of our hearts but because they are dyed with the blood of the Son of God…so our souls, which of themselves are not able to produce one single good thought towards God’s service, being steeped in sacred love by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, produce sacred actions, which tend towards and carry us to immortal glory….” Francis de Sales