



Life Group  
Sermon Guide Questions  
29 JUNE 2025

The Joyful Descent: A Philippians 2 Miniseries

*Running on Empty,  
Pouring with Joy*

**Philippians 2:12-18**

**Discovery**

- 1) In verses 12-13, Paul connects our "working out" with God's "working in." What is the specific action we are told to do, and what is the specific action God is doing in us?
- 2) Looking at verses 14-16, what is the ultimate purpose or result of a community that does everything "without grumbling or disputing"?

**Understanding**

- 3) The sermon linked Israel's grumbling in the wilderness to a "vote of no-confidence in Yahweh." How does this perspective elevate the command against grumbling from simple good manners to a core issue of faith and trust in God's goodness?

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## "Running on Empty, Pouring with Joy"

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4) Paul describes his potential death as being "poured out as a drink offering" (v. 17), and he calls it a reason for joy. What does this metaphor teach us about where to find joy when our own resources—emotional, physical, or financial—are completely spent for others?

### **Application**

5) If a "complaint-free" life is a primary sign of our witness, what is one specific situation or relationship where you can intentionally silence grumbling and choose gratitude this week?

6) The sermon provided a six-step model for a genuine apology as a way of being "poured out." Is there a relationship where God is calling you to take even just the first step ("State the Offense") to begin the work of reconciliation?

7) The balikbayan box symbolizes being poured out for the joy of others. What is one practical, costly "item" (your time, a resource, a specific service) God is prompting you to "pack" for someone else this week, not for recognition, of course, but for their joy and your witness?

