

And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. — Philippians 1:6

This Bible verse was on a poster in my bedroom as I was growing up. I can remember feeling so frustrated at my day, myself, and my reactions towards others. I would lie in bed, read this verse, and breathe a sigh of relief as I was reminded that God is at work. I'm still comforted by this verse as an adult with a richer understanding of who God is, His sacrifice for sinners, and His love for His people. I've experienced more of God's transforming work and am humbled as I think about how the gospel has called me to salvation, sanctification, and belief in the truth.

My daughter is now about the age I was when I would find myself staring at these words from Philippians under the picture of a rainbow beside my bed. Like Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17, I desire for her to stand firm in the truths taught her. She can look to the Lord for comfort and, through His power, be established in every good work and word. It has been a joy and privilege to watch her walk through difficult things and call out to the Lord for help. She is now an example and reminder for me when I slip into old habits of self-reliance and pride rather than paying attention to God.

Humility is required to pay attention. Humility involves admitting that we don't know everything and requires realizing our sinfulness and submitting to a higher authority. We must gather strength from God for our journey and give credit to Him when anything good happens. We must be willing to wait rather than charge forward, to serve others, and use the gifts and strengths God has given us to use as He directs.

Ask the Lord to help you pay attention and increase your vision for Him. As He becomes more to us, we become less. As we see the strength He provides, we can repent of our self-sufficiency and be available for His purposes for our lives.

Let's Chat!

- What are some differences between humility and pride?
- Where are you putting too much value on yourself or your work rather than on what God is doing in you and through you?
- When are you tempted to do things without God?
- How can you remember to trust God for His purposes in our lives?

Take-away Truth

When we have a right thinking about ourselves in relationship to God, we can humbly surrender to His purposes for us.

Find more conversation starters: https://women.pcacdm.org/made-for-more/

