



# THRIVING – Living with a life that knows God’s will

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### Brian Greenaway

This Study Guide provides a summarised study with additional discussion questions based on the scriptures mentioned in the sermon.

### Connect:

**1. A couple of concepts to consider:**

- We have salvation by grace alone. But now we have it – we need to grow in it.
- We are not abandoned to this alone. God is working in us through His Spirit and gives us both the desire and ability to do Gods will. Which can only be ruined by us deciding to complain or grumble.
- Once we fulfil this we will shine.
- Paul concludes by saying that whatever happens to him he will have joy that his work with them was not in vain.

### Engage:

2. Read [Philippians 2:12-18](#)
3. What is the encouragement/aim in the above scripture?
4. Read [Revelations 21:11](#)

**“For if your whole body is full of light, with no part of it in shadow, it will all be radiant—it will be like having a bright lamp to give you light.”**

Luke 11:35-36

- This is an important principle which Jesus mentions in several places. At one time He says ‘I am the light of the world’ ([John 8:12](#)) and then He says in [Matthew 5:14](#), ‘You are the light of the world’
  - It is interesting that the tense of all these are not ‘you will be’ – but ‘you already are’.
5. Reread [Philippians 2:12](#) and discuss
  6. We already possess the salvation, it is ours, we have it by grace, but now we have a responsibility to do what?
  7. Read [2 Peter 1:5-9](#)

8. How do we shine?

### Framework:

**“Your attitude determines your altitude.”**

Zig Ziglar

**“A bad attitude is like a flat tyre. Until you change it you are not going anywhere.”**

Bob Gass

9. Daniel had an excellent spirit. In [Daniel 5:14](#) it says, “I have heard of you, that the Spirit of God is in you, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in you-” What was it about Daniel that made him stand out?

➤ We must always remember that God is working in us.

“Working” (in Greek) means “to energize, to work effectively”

➤ Our desire to do God’s will is produced by divine energy in our hearts as we make that choice to submit ourselves to the Holy Spirit’s ministry. But not only does the Holy Spirit give us the desire, He also provides the necessary power to do it.

10. How do we know God’s will?

11. How do we do God’s will?

12. Read [Colossians 1:27](#)

13. What do we need to carry in our lives if we are to make a difference?

14. Read [Philippians 2:16](#) - Paul, again, is focussed on ‘the day’, not any day but ‘the day’. The day when things come to an end and all is weighted up. That on that day all will see the fruit of his labours. This is not a pride thing; Paul knows it’s the work of Christ.

**‘For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?’**

1 Thessalonians 2:19

15. Paul speaks here of rejoicing and joy that these Philippians believers are shining lights and that they have ‘holding fast the word of life’. What is this word of life?

16. Here is an end time prophecy from the book of [Daniel 12:3](#):

*“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.*

- What a powerful prophecy! This is the future for everyone reading.

### **Prayer:**

Father, help me in my relationship with you. Help me to shine your light and demonstrate your glory to those around me.

