

Daily Personal Bible Study Guide
for Paul's Epistle to the

PHILIPPIANS

Written by:
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WEEK 1: DAY 1

Word of God Speak

Read:

Philippians 1:1 and Psalm 1

Think:

- Open your Bible to the Table of Contents. Find Philippians.
- Do you understand the basic divisions of the Bible into Old and New Testament?
- Who wrote Philippians? To whom is it written?
- What does Psalm 1 promise people who plant themselves like trees next to the stream of God's word?

Pray:

- Thank God for His word.
- Ask Him to speak to you as you read.

WEEK 1: DAY 2

No Lord but Jesus

Read:

Philippians 1:1-2 and Matthew 6:24

Think:

- In Philippians, Paul is trying to underscore the need to serve Lord Jesus instead of Lord Caesar. What rival lord do we sometimes allow to distract us from serving Jesus?

- What kind of peace do those rival lords offer?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you the rival lords in your life.

- Ask God for strength to serve Him only.

WEEK 1: DAY 3

Peace of Christ

Read:

Philippians 1:1-2 and John 14:27 and John 16:33

Think:

- What is the difference between the peace the world tries to give and the peace offered by Jesus?
- How does real peace found in Jesus produce confidence?

Pray:

- Tell God the areas of your life where you need peace.
- Ask God to bring His peace into your life.

WEEK 1: DAY 4

Grace and Peace

Read: Philippians 1:1-2 and Ephesians 2:8-10

Think:

- What is grace?
- What does it mean that real peace comes from grace?
- What is the result of experiencing grace?

Pray:

- Praise God that He brings grace and peace into our lives.
- Tell God those areas that you most need to experience His grace and peace.
- Ask for His grace and peace to be apparent in your life.

WEEK 1: DAY 5

The Author and Perfecter of Faith

Read:

Philippians 1:6 and Hebrews 12:1-2

Think:

- What work has God started in us?
- What does it mean that God will complete the work that He started in our lives?
- How do we respond to this?

Pray:

- Express gratitude to God for His work in your life.
- Tell Him the areas of your life where you need most to see Him at work.
- Express hope in His continued work to bring your life to completion.

WEEK 2: DAY 1

May Your Love Abound

Read:

Philippians 1:9-11

Think:

- What does it mean for love to abound in knowledge and discernment?
- What is love supposed to equip us to be and do?
- What does “being filled with the fruit of righteousness” mean?

Pray:

- Ask God to help you grow in love.
- Reread these verses as a prayer for yourself.
- Ask God to bring someone else to mind that you could pray this prayer for.

WEEK 2: DAY 2

In This I Rejoice

Read:

Philippians 1:12-18 and James 1:2-5

Think:

- Paul is in prison and being attacked, yet he still rejoices. Why? What is his focus?
- How can we change our perspective and be able to rejoice even in hard times?

Pray:

- Tell God the hard situations you currently find yourself in.
- Ask Him for help in changing your perspective and learning to rejoice.

WEEK 2: DAY 3

My Earnest Expectation

Read:

Philippians 1:19-20

Think:

- What does it mean that Paul “won’t be put to shame in anything”?
- What is Paul hoping and trusting in?
- What are you trusting in?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you the things you are trusting in besides Him.
- Pray for strength to trust Him more.

WEEK 2: DAY 4

To Live is Christ

Read:

Philippians 1:22-26

Think:

- What does “to live is Christ and to die is gain” mean?
- Paul says his motivation in life is to serve God and serve others. What is the chief motivation in your life for the things you do?
- Who is someone that God has put in your life to give you an opportunity to serve.

Pray:

- Ask God to show you what motivates you.
- Ask for strength and opportunity to learn to be motivated by service to God and to others.

WEEK 2: DAY 5

Walk Worthy

Read:

Philippians 1:27-30

Think:

- What does it mean to walk “worthy of the gospel?”
- We sometimes interpret hard times and opposition as signs of problems. How does Paul tell us to change how we see these things?
- What is something in your life that you are having a hard time coming to terms with?

Pray:

- Tell God the things that you are struggling with right now.
- Ask for help in changing your perspective to see them how He sees them.

WEEK 3: DAY 1

United in Spirit

Read:

Philippians 2:1-2

Think:

- Where do you find encouragement, consolation, fellowship, affection, and compassion? What does it mean to find them in Christ?

- What relationships do you see division in? How can we find unity in Christ?

Pray:

- Pray for God to heal the division in your life.

- Ask God to help you pursue true unity with others.

WEEK 3: DAY 2

Regard Others as More Important

Read:

Philippians 2:3-4

Think:

- What are some examples of doing things from selfishness or empty conceit?
- What does it mean to be humble?
- Why do we have a hard time considering others as more important than ourselves?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you the ways you have been motivated by selfishness.
- Ask God to give you opportunities to put someone else's needs above your own.

WEEK 3: DAY 3

Have This Attitude

Read:
Philippians 2:5

Think:

- How would you describe your attitude in general?
- What excuses do we give for our attitudes?
- How can a good example change our attitude?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you the ways you have had a negative attitude recently.
- Ask God to help you model your actions, attitudes, and outlook on life, to be more like Jesus.

WEEK 3: DAY 4

He Emptied Himself

Read:

Philippians 2:6-8

Think:

- “A thing to be grasped” is something you shake in people’s faces to show how important you are. What did Jesus have a right to “shake in our faces?”
- What did He do instead? What does “emptied himself” mean?
- What is your “thing to be grasped”? What would it look like for you to empty yourself?

Pray:

- Thank God for the humility Jesus demonstrated.
- Ask God to show you the things you use to exalt yourself.
- Ask God for the grace to empty yourself on behalf of other people.

WEEK 3: DAY 5

God Highly Exalted Him

Read:

Philippians 2:9-11 and 1 Peter 5:6-7 and James 4:10

Think:

- What did God do for Jesus because He humbled himself?
- What does it mean to confess Jesus Christ as Lord?
- What does God promise to do for us if we humble ourselves?

Pray:

- Praise God for the triumph and exaltation of Jesus.
- Tell God why you are afraid to humble yourself.
- Ask for strength to live willingly under the Lordship of Jesus.

WEEK 4: DAY 1

Work Out Your Salvation

Read:

Philippians 2:12-13

Think:

- “Work out your salvation” doesn’t mean “accomplish your own salvation”. It means figure out what living out your salvation means in every aspect of your life. How do we do that?
- Why do you think we are to do it with “fear and trembling”?
- What does it mean that while you are working things out, God is at work in you?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you the areas you need to learn to live out your salvation better.
- Thank God that in the midst of everything you struggle through, He is still at work.

WEEK 4: DAY 2

Lights in the World

Read:

Philippians 2:14-16

Think:

- What things do you grumble about? Why do you grumble? What has to change before we stop grumbling?
- Do you think that you are living in the midst of a “wicked and perverse generation”?
- What does it mean that we are supposed to be “lights in the world”? Before we can be lights, what do we need to do?

Pray:

- Ask God for strength to spot your grumbling and stop it.
- Ask God for help in being a light in the midst of a dark world.

WEEK 4: DAY 3

Share Your Joy with Me

Read:

Philippians 2:17-18

Think:

- A drink offering was part of a sacrifice where wine or other liquid was poured on top of a burned offering. How does Paul use this idea in these verses?
- What does it mean to be “poured out” for Jesus? Why does Paul rejoice? How can we learn to do so as well?
- How can we share our joy with each other?

Pray:

- Tell God the parts of your life where you feel “poured out”.
- Ask Him to help you rejoice.
- Ask Him to show you someone you need to share your joy with.

WEEK 4: DAY 4

A Kindred Spirit

Read:

Philippians 2:19-24

Think:

- Which words does Paul use to describe Timothy?
- Do you have a Timothy in your life?
- How can we learn to be a Timothy for someone else?

Pray:

- Thank God for the relationships you have.
- Ask God to show you where you're able to be a Timothy in someone's life.

WEEK 4: DAY 5

A Fellow Soldier

Read:

Philippians 2:25-30

Think:

- How does Paul describe Epaphroditus?
- Do you see yourself as a worker and a soldier? Do you realize you need partners in this? Do you have them?
- What does it mean to “hold men like Him in high honor”? Do you know anybody like Him who is worthy of honor? How can you show it?

Pray:

- Ask that God would show you the work that needs to be done and the battles He wants you to fight.
- Ask that God would bring fellow workers and soldiers in your life.
- Ask God to show you people that are worthy of honor.

WEEK 5: DAY 1

Rejoice in the Lord

Read:
Philippians 3:1

Think:

- What does it mean to rejoice in the Lord?
- Paul says it's a safeguard, but against what?
- What other things do we rejoice in instead?

Pray:

- Tell God the reasons you find it hard to rejoice in Him.
- Ask Him to show you the reasons you have to rejoice in Him.
- Praise Him, and begin the process of learning to rejoice in Him.

WEEK 5: DAY 2

Put No Confidence in the Flesh

Read:

Philippians 3:2-6 and Zechariah 4:6

Think:

- What does it mean to worship in the Spirit of God?
- What does it mean to glory in Christ Jesus?
- What does it mean to put confidence in the flesh?
- Why do we need to learn to not put confidence in the flesh?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you the things that you are putting your confidence in besides Him.
- Ask God to show you how to worship Him in the Spirit and to glory in Christ.

WEEK 5: DAY 3

That I May Gain Christ

Read:

Philippians 3:7-11 and Matthew 13:44

Think:

- What are the things you are most proud of? What does it mean to count them as loss?
- What do we value more than knowing Christ?
- What does this passage say about what it means to know Christ?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you the things that are getting in the way of following Him more.
- Ask Him to help you value Christ above all and seek to know Him more.

WEEK 5: DAY 4

The Upward Call of God in Christ Jesus

Read:

Philippians 3:12-14

Think:

- What do you think Paul means when he says, “that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus”?
- What does it mean to forget what lies behind?
- What does it mean to reach forward to what lies ahead?
- What is the upward call of Christ Jesus?

Pray:

- Thank God that He laid hold of you for a reason.
- Ask God for help in pressing on towards the goal.

WEEK 5: DAY 5

God Will Reveal That Also

Read:
Philippians 3:15-16

Think:

- Who do you currently have disagreements with?
- What does this passage teach about giving God room to work?

Pray:

- Pray for those people who you are currently in conflict with.
- Ask God to intervene to change your heart and their heart and to restore unity.

WEEK 6: DAY 1

Join in Following My Example

Read:

Philippians 3:17 and 1 Corinthians 11:1

Think:

- We all need good mentors to follow. Do you have them?

- We all need a community of people to follow alongside us. Do you have them?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you the mentors He has put in your life.

- Ask God to show you a community you can be part of.

- Ask God to equip you to be a good mentor to someone else.

WEEK 6: DAY 2

I Tell You Now Even Weeping

Read:

Philippians 3:18 and Matthew 7:13-14 and John 4:35-38

Think:

- Why do you think Paul mentions “enemies of the cross of Christ”? Why does Paul bring this up?

- Why do you think this makes Paul weep?

Pray:

- Pray for those you know who have stopped or slowed their following after Jesus.

- Ask God to help you weep over the lost.

WEEK 6: DAY 3

Set Your Mind on Things Above

Read:

Philippians 3:19 and 1 John 2:15-17 and Romans 5:11-18

Think:

- What does “their god is their appetite” mean? How do you sometimes live this way?
- What does it mean to set your mind on earthly things? How do you sometimes live this way?
- What does it mean to set our minds on things above?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you how you still serve your appetites.
- Ask God for help in setting your mind on things above.

WEEK 6: DAY 4

Citizens of Heaven

Read:

Philippians 3:20 and Matthew 6:10 and 1 Corinthians 15:58

Think:

- What does it mean to have our citizenship in heaven?

- What other lords compete for our allegiance?

Pray:

- Ask God to show you how your loyalties are divided.

- Ask God to show you how to live out your heavenly citizenship.

WEEK 6: DAY 5

The Power That He Has

Read:

Philippians 3:21

Think:

- What does this verse say Jesus will do for us?
- Why does He have the power to do it?

Pray:

- Praise God for His promises.
- Praise God for His power.
- Ask for grace to trust His power and promises more.

WEEK 7: DAY 1

Stand Firm in the Lord

Read:
Philippians 4:1

Think:

- What does it mean to stand firm? Against what?
- What does it mean to stand firm in the Lord?
- What other things do we sometimes use to try to help us stand firm?
- How can we learn to rely on God instead of them?

Pray:

- Tell God the things that are currently making it hard for you to stand firm.
- Ask for strength in standing firm.
- Praise God for all the reasons He is a refuge for you.

WEEK 7: DAY 2

Live in Harmony

Read:

Philippians 4:2-3

Think:

- Have you ever had two friends who like you but not each other? What kind of tension does this cause?
- What does it mean to live in harmony? What does it take?
- How can we help others pursue harmony and restoration with other people?

Pray:

- Pray for the relationships that you know are divided or strained.
- Ask for God to work in their lives to restore harmony.
- Pray for opportunities to help others to reconcile.

WEEK 7: DAY 3

The Lord is Near

Read:

Philippians 4:4-5 and Matthew 5:5

Think:

- What does “the Lord is near” mean?
- How does the nearness of Jesus help us to rejoice?
- What does it mean to be gentle? What is the opposite of gentle?
- What are excuses we give for not being gentle with others?

Pray:

- Praise God that He is near.
- Tell Him if He feels far away from you right now. Ask Him for help in being more aware of His presence.
- Pray for strength in rejoicing and being gentle with others.

WEEK 7: DAY 4

The Peace of God

Read:

Philippians 4:6-7 and John 14:27 and John 16:33

Think:

- What are some sources of anxiety? How do people try to cope with anxiety?
- What does it mean to submit our requests to God with thanksgiving?
- What are some other ways we sometimes submit our requests to God? Why is doing it with thanksgiving so important?
- How is the peace of Jesus different than the peace of the world?

Pray:

- Tell God the things that make you anxious.
- Submit your requests to Him with thanksgiving.
- Ask for His peace to guard you.

WEEK 7: DAY 5

Think on These Things

Read:

Philippians 4:8 and Colossians 3:1-6

Think:

- What happens when we focus on what frustrates us?
- What happens when we focus on what frightens us?
- What happens when we focus on what we think will bring us fulfillment?
- How can changing our focus help us find peace?

Pray:

- Tell God the fears or frustrations or false fulfillment that you can't stop focusing on.
- Ask God for help in redirecting your focus to Him and to heavenly things.

WEEK 8: DAY 1

Practice These Things

Read:

Philippians 4:9 and 1 Corinthians 11:1

Think:

- List all the ways Paul describes his example to the Philippians.
- What kind of examples do you follow?
- What kind of example are you to others?
- What does Paul say will happen when we follow his good example?

Pray:

- Thank God for the good examples He has placed in your life.
- Ask for help in following their example well.
- Ask for help in being a good example to others.

WEEK 8: DAY 2

I Have Learned the Secret

Read:

Philippians 4:10-14

Think:

- What is the secret Paul is talking about in verse 12?
- Based on that, what does verse 13 really mean?

Pray:

- Ask for His strength in enduring whatever situation you find yourself in.
- Ask God for help in discovering the blessing in your current situation.

WEEK 8: DAY 3

Not That I Seek the Gift

Read:

Philippians 4:15-18 and Acts 20:35

Think:

- What does verse 17 mean?

- Why is it better to give than to receive?

Pray:

- Tell God your needs.

- Ask God for opportunities to use what you do have to bless others.

WEEK 8: DAY 4

According to His Riches

Read:

Philippians 4:19

Think:

- What are your current needs?
- What does it mean to rely on God to provide?

Pray:

- Tell God your needs.
- Ask Him to provide for you.

WEEK 8: DAY 5

Glory Forever and Ever

Read:

Philippians 4:20-23 and Hebrews 4:14-16

Think:

- What does it mean to give glory to God?
- What does it mean to greet the saints?
- What does it mean for us to be filled with the grace of the Lord Jesus?

Pray:

- Praise God for all that you have seen Him do.
- Thank God for the community you have.
- Pray for the opportunity to bless and grow your community.
- Ask God for grace to help in times of need so you will be able to live out your salvation in ways that glorify Him.



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