# PHILIPPIANS

CELEBRATION SMALL GROUPS

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

### HOMEWORK

### 1. READ

Each week we will read a selected passage. Read through it in NASB, our translation from which we will share the passage and memorize scripture.

Read in a way that ignores chapter divisions and allows space and time to reflect on keywords, verses, themes, emotions, and major people.

### 2. WRITE

Write what you noticed as the MAIN THOUGHT from the selected passage. What was Paul saying? What was he encouraging or challenging the church with?

### **3. REFLECT & PRAY**

The word of God is ALIVE & ACTIVE (Hebrews 4:12). Invite the Holy Spirit into your reading and reflection. Allow Him space and time to speak to you. As you read, there will be both practical and spiritual applications.

**PRACTICAL:** As you read, consider the following questions:

Is there an example to follow? Is there a sin to avoid? Is there a promise to claim? Is there a command to obey? Is there a condition to meet? *"If you..., then..."* Is there a prayer to repeat? Is there a verse to memorize?

**SPIRITUAL:** As you read, consider the following questions:

What do you learn about God? What did you feel the Holy Spirit saying to you? In what ways do you feel stirred to change or correct your behavior?

**PRAYER:** Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you and to empower you to live out what you've read.

### 4. MEMORIZE

Each week we will have offer a verse to memorize. Committing scripture to memory gives us a storehouse of wisdom and faith to fight our daily battles. FAITH comes from hearing, and hearing comes from the Word of God (Romans 10:17 NASB).

### CHARTS FOR CONTEXT (\*SEE FOLLOWING PAGES)

### \* AT A GLANCE CHART

As you read each passage in Philippians, you will gather information about the historical setting, keywords, chapter themes, and the overall purpose of the letter. As you learn about these, fill in the Philippians AT A GLANCE CHART

#### **\* AUTHOR & RECIPIENT CHART**

Since Philippians is a letter, learning about the author and the recipients is key to context. As you read the passages, note what the author (Paul) says about himself and what he says about the recipients (Philippians). Write them down in the Author & Recipient chart provided.

#### **\* KEYWORD CHART**

The words *rejoice/joy, mind/attitude* are used throughout Philippians and are keywords. As you read each passage, mark these words. List them in the KEYWORD chart provided and note what is said regarding these words in relation to Christ.

#### **\* GOING DEEPER**

Answer questions for deeper study into the passage

### **PHILIPPIANS AT A GLANCE:**

DATE:	
KEY WORDS:	
PURPOSE:	
HISTORICAL Setting:	
OVERALL Theme:	

CHAPTER	THEME(S)
1	
2	
3	
4	

### **THE AUTHOR AND RECIPIENT CHART**

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Since Philippians is a letter, learning about the author and the recipients is key to context. As you read the passages, note what the author (Paul) says about himself and what he says about the recipients (Philippians). Write them down in the Author & Recipient chart provided.

CHAPTER	WHAT IS HE SAYING ABOUT HIMSELF?	WHAT IS HE SAYING ABOUT THE Recipients?
1		
2		
3		
4		

### **KEYWORDS IN PHILIPPIANS**

The words *rejoice/joy, mind/attitude* are used throughout Philippians and are keywords. As you read each passage, mark these words. List them in the KEYWORD chart provided and note what is said regarding these words in relation to Christ.

CHAPTER	JOY/REJOICE	MIND/ATTITUDE
1		
2		
3		
4		

### **GOING DEEPER**

#### WEEK 1

Read Acts 15:36 through Acts 17:1 and answer the following questions.

- 1. How did Paul and Timothy become acquainted with each other?
- 2. How did they become acquainted with the Philippians?
- 3. Why did they go to Philippi?
- 4. Record the significant things that you have learned about Philippi and the visit there.

#### WEEK 2

Paul refers to himself as a bond-servant of our Lord. Read Deuteronomy 15:12-18. Write down all you learn about being a bond-servant, then answer the following questions.

- 1. Why would someone want to be a bond-servant?
- 2. Read the following scriptures and see how they can be cross-referenced with Deut. 15:12-18 and with the term bond-servant. Write down the points of similarity
  - (A) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
  - (B) Galatians 1:10

#### WEEK 3

Paul writes about "suffering for His sake" in Philippians 1:29. Read the following passages of Scriptures and write down any insights you gain about suffering.

- (A) Matthew 5:10-12
- (B) John 15:18-21
- (C) Romans 5:1-5
- (D) Romans 8:16-18
- (E) 2 Corinthians 1:7, 4:8-18
- (F) 1 Thessalonians 3:2-4
- (G) 2 Timothy 3:10-12
- (H) Hebrews 10:32-36

### WEEK 4

Write out step by step how Christ humbled himself and then write how He was exalted.

HUMILIATION PHIL 2:6-8	EXALTATION PHIL 2:9-11

What do you learn about Christ's example of humility?

#### WEEK 5

List what you have learned about the following qualities of the attitude of Christ. Then list the qualities of Timothy, Epaphroditus, and Paul so you can note the parallels.

Description of the attitude of Christ Phil 2:5-8	Timothy Phil 2:19-24	Epaphroditus Phil 2:25-30	Paul

### WEEK 6

In Philippians 3:2-3 Paul refers to the "false circumcision" and "true circumcision." What was circumcision? What was its purpose?

A. If you don't know what circumcision is, look it up.

B. Genesis 17 contains the first mention of circumcision. Read this chapter and write everything you learn about circumcision.

C. Circumcision was the sign of the covenant that God made with Abraham and his descendants. Read Genesis 15:6 and compare it to Romans 4:3-13. Answer the following questions

- 1. What was Abraham's relationship with God when circumcision was instituted?
- 2. What role did circumcision have?

#### WEEK 7

In Philippians 3:20 Paul writes that our citizenship is in heaven.

Look up the word citizen/citizenship and write out the definition.

With this definition in mind, how does that give you perspective of what you can believe God for?

#### WEEK 8

Let's cross reference Philippians 4:4-7. Look up each reference and explain the verse teaches you about any facet of anxiety.

Psalm 55:22

Isaiah 26:3

Isaiah 41:10

Isaiah 43:1-2

Matthew 6:24-34

Hebrews 13:5-6

1 Peter 5:6-7

In Philippians 4:8 Paul gives us a command, then in verse 9, there follows a wonderful promise. Read both verses and record on the following chart the promise and the conditions. Be specific

PROMISE	CONDITION