



Philippians Bible Study September - November 2018

How does this study work.?

Psalm 1 talks about the man who seeks out to please God and how he meditates on the law. To meditate doesn't mean we seclude ourselves on top of some mountain like a Hindu Dojo. To meditate on God's word actually looks a lot like a cow chewing his cud. It means we keep His law, commands, and word on our minds and constantly consider how they call us to change our path and footsteps. This means we don't rush through our time of study trying to read more. It means we read more diligently to allow God to speak to us through our time of study.

That is what this study of Philippians is about. Each week from Monday - Saturday, we won't have more than 25 verses to read. So each day, set aside 15-25 minutes and read the passage for the upcoming Sunday. This means that when we meet together, you should have read through the weekly passage 6 times. This will allow us to really dive into the Scripture and how God has spoken through it to each of us. Use the passage questions below to help you begin thinking through the passages.

Introduction

The Apostle Paul wrote the book of *Philippians* while imprisoned at the end of his life in the early to mid 60s. Paul wrote this book with no logical outline or major doctrinal arguments. It is, however, a spontaneous utterance of love and gratitude for the ministry of the Philippian people. So as we read and study together, we will be looking and noting those times of gratitude and joy that flow from Paul.

*September 16
1:1-11*

As you read this passage throughout the week, consider how you would feel about an individual (or in Paul's case a community) who grew in their faith and was doing amazing things for the Kingdom of God.

Take some to ponder over verses 9-11. What does Paul qualify as what 'really matters' and what 'will bring much glory and praise to God'? How can we ensure that we are being people who are doing these things?

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

September 23
1:12-19

Consider how painful an experience of being imprisoned because of your faith would be. But look how Paul responds. What can that teach us about how to respond to less than perfect situations?

What do Paul's words concerning the motives of preachers teach us about what is truly important when it comes to evangelism and sharing the message of Christ?

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

October 4
1:20-30

Consider the odd tension we live in as Christians between serving Christ here and living with Him in eternity. What do Paul's words teach us about the importance of both?

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

October 14
2:1-11

Verses 5-11 are some of the most important in all of Paul's writings and possibly the New Testament. Read over them slowly each day this week and consider the weight of what they mean and what they are calling us to do in response.

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

October 21
2:12-24

Consider the list of moral and ethical qualities Paul calls the people to live by. Why do you think living moral and ethical lives is so important to our witness and our ability to evangelize?

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

November 4
2:25-30

In Chapter 2, Paul talks about two distinct individuals and their ability to serve the Kingdom and the people in Philippi. Do you have people around you who you could talk about in such a way?

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

November 11
3:1-11

Consider the things you call valuable. Are they valuable to the Kingdom of Heaven? What titles and accolades do we ascribe to that would be considered worthless to Christ?

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

November 18
3:12-21

Consider what Paul is saying here, faith and walking with Christ is not something we ever 'arrive' at. What things does he highlight as steps in that process of 'pressing on'?

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

November 25
4:1-23

In verses 2-9, Paul spends some time encouraging the people of Philippi. What words of encouragement could you pass along to those coming behind you?

What is one thing in this passage that Paul is grateful for or rejoicing over?

Important Verses

What verses do you consider important passages to remember? Just jot them down and commit to remembering them.