PHILIPPIANS



Living a Life Worthy of the Gospel



Summer 2020

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Intro to Philippians

Philippians is Paul's warmest letter, which is surprising because there is unrest in his world. Things have not gone according to plan. He has been imprisoned, and yet throughout the letter a strange happiness emanates from the page producing what Tim Mackie calls, "the gospel in poetry."

In fact that's exactly what we find in Chapter 2: a poem about Jesus as the Messiah. It's the centerpiece of the letter. Everything feeds into and flows from this poetic retelling of the Story of Redemption including a subtle nod to Adam's rebellion to an obvious allusion to Isaiah's suffering servant.

Paul pulls the words and ideas from this "Christ poem" into each section in order to help us see *how* our own story should become a walking, moving, breathing expression of Jesus' story, of the gospel.

As "citizens of heaven," then, we will be both more realistic about the shortcomings of our society **and** more hope-filled about the answers the gospel provides. Living a life worthy of the gospel means that our approach to suffering, to unrest, and even to politics will always provide a slightly different answer to what troubles our society most.

Should this surprise us? Paul thinks not, and instead encourages us to see every aspect of our lives as places where God is completing His "gospel work" in us. Philippians shows us that the gospel is not simply what saves us, but also what continues to transform us as we seek to live the gospel out into our everyday lives.

Everyone in God's Word Every Day

You will start hearing that phrase a lot around Oak Pointe Milford, and here's why: This season has been one of difficulty and change for us all. As a church we are looking at this as an opportunity to reset, to simplify and focus on our main purpose as a church: knowing Jesus and making Him known. But in order to make Jesus known, we have to truly know Jesus: what he's like and how he desires for us to live.

And, the absolute best way to know Jesus is by being fully present with Him everyday as you read His Word. There are so many benefits of developing this practice in your life, but one that our elders identified in particular is the deep stability it produces. Take a look at some ways to do this on your own and with others, and let's make this a season where God's Word takes center stage in our lives.

Ideas for Groups

- 1. Read Philippians with your Life Group, Study Group, or form a new group! Don't have a Group yet? Let us know and we'll connect you with one! (micah@opcmilford.org)
- 2. Use the Reading Plan and COMMA questions throughout the week, then gather to share your discoveries, ask lingering questions, and enjoy community around God's Word.
- 3. Read along together in the Daily Devo to grow your understanding of the passage, then meet to share what you are discovering about how God is at work in your life.

Included are some of the questions that are in your pastors' heads as we read the Letters, like Philippians, that the Apostles wrote to the early church.

Each category is important, but you don't have to answer every question every time you read.

Context, Observation, and Meaning help us understand what is being said.

Meditating and Applying help us to live out what we have read.

COMMA. A comma separates ideas and acts as a breathing mark. Use these questions to simplify, breathe, and spend time in God's Word.

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Reading Tips: Read slowly as if for the first time. Read multiple times for clarity. Read the Daily Devo to help with questions that arise.

The questions you'll find each day...

Context

- What can you learn about the person or situation to which the letter is written?
- What clues are there about the author and his circumstances?
- What was the main point of the passage immediately before this one? Are there logical or thematic connections to the passage you are reading?

Observation

- Are there any major sub-sections or breaks in the text? Are there key connecting words (for, therefore, if, but, because) that indicate the logical flow of the passage?
- What is the main point or points? What supporting points does the author make?
- What surprises you?
- What change does the author seem to be trying to bring about in readers?

Meaning

- How does this text relate to other parts of the book?
- How does the passage relate to Jesus? How does He fulfill this command/ideal/principle? What does this teach you about God? Why did God put this in the Bible?
- How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Meditate (use these themes as you pray the passage back to God)

- Adoration: How can I love and praise God on the basis of what I've read?
- Repentance: How do I fail to realize this in my life? What wrong behavior, harmful emotions or attitudes result when I forget this?
- Gospel Thanks: How can I thank Jesus as the ultimate revelation of this attribute of God and the ultimate answer to this sin or need of mine?
- Application: See below...

Application

- How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?
- Is there some attitude you need to change?
- How does this passage call on you to change the way you live?
- How would you be different if this truth were powerfully real to you?



It takes approximately 14 minutes to read all 4 Chapters of Philippians.

Summer Rhythm:

Week 1: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 1:1-11
Week 2: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 1:12-26
Week 3: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 1:27-30
Week 4: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 2:1-11
Week 5: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 2:12-18
Week 6: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 2:19-20
Week 7: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 3:1-11
Week 8: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 3:12-21
Week 9: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 4:1-9
Week 10: Read: Whole Letter + Philippians 4:10-23

Weekly Rhythm:

Day 1: Whole Letter

Day 2: This Week's Chapter

Day 3: This Week's Passage

Day 4: Passage Part 1

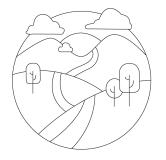
Day 5: Passage Part 2

Day 6: Grace Day.

Day 7: Meditate on this week's Passage

Sermon Notes

Sunday, June 21 • Introduction



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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APPLICATION				

PHILIPPIANS 1

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PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11

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PHILIPPIANS 1:1-5

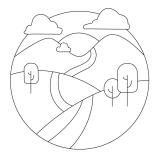
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PHILIPPIANS 1:6-11

WEEK I • DAY 5		
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Sermon Notes

Sunday, June 28 • Philippians 1:1-11



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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PHILIPPIANS 1

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PHILIPPIANS 1:12-26

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PHILIPPIANS 1:12-18

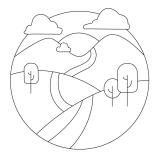
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PHILIPPIANS 1:18-26

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Sermon Notes

Sunday, July 5 • Philippians 1:12-26



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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PHILIPPIANS 1 + 2

WEEK 3 • DAY 2		
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PHILIPPIANS 1:27-20

WEEK 3 • DAY 3		
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PHILIPPIANS 1:27-28

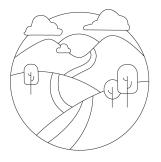
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PHILIPPIANS 1:29-30

WEEK 3 • DAY 5		
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Sermon Notes

Sunday, July 12 • Philippians 1:27-30



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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APPLICATION		

PHILIPPIANS 2

WEEK 4 • DAY 2		
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PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

WEEK 4 • DAY 3		
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PHILIPPIANS 2:1-5

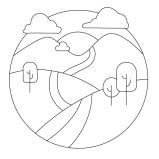
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PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11

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Sermon Notes

Sunday, July 19 • Philippians 2:1-11



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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PHILIPPIANS 2

WEEK 5 • DAY 2		
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APPLICATION		

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-18

WEEK 5 • DAY 3		
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PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13

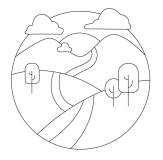
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PHILIPPIANS 2:14-18

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Sermon Notes

Sunday, July 26 • Philippians 2:12-18



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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PHILIPPIANS 2+3

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APPLICATION		

PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30

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PHILIPPIANS 2:19-24

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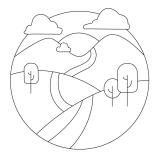
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PHILIPPIANS 2:25-30

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Sermon Notes

Sunday, August 2 • Philippians 2:19-30



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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PHILIPPIANS 3

WEEK 7 • DAY 2		
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PHILIPPIANS 3:1-14

WEEK (• DAY 3		
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PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11

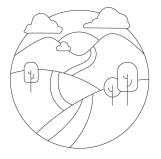
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PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14

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Sermon Notes

Sunday, August 9 • Philippians 3:1-14



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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PHILIPPIANS 3

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PHILIPPIANS 3:15-21

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PHILIPPIANS 3:15-16

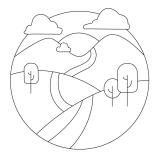
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PHILIPPIANS 3:17-21

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Sermon Notes

Sunday, August 16 • Philippians 3:15-21



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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PHILIPPIANS 4

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PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9

WEEK 9 • DAY 3		
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PHILIPPIANS 4:1-3

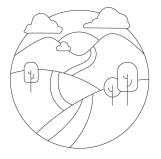
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PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9

WEEK 9 • DAY 5		
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Sermon Notes

Sunday, August 23 • Philippians 4:1-9



PHILIPPIANS 1-4

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PHILIPPIANS 4

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PHILIPPIANS 4:10-23

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PHILIPPIANS 4:10-13

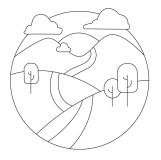
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PHILIPPIANS 4:14-23

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Sermon Notes

Sunday, August 30 • Philippians 4:10-23



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