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PHILIPPIANS

Spring 2021

Momentum

PHILIPPIANS

Spring 2021

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Bible Study Methods

This packet is designed to help us learn methods that will aid in our study of the Bible. These methods fit under three fundamental skills: observe, interpret, and apply. Hopefully as you practice these methods, your time studying the Bible will become more worshipful and meaningful. Listed below are the methods and purpose of each box to guide you in your weekly study.

Pray (How will I understand?): Before each Bible study our process should always start in prayer. We are utterly dependent upon God to reveal His will to us. Without God working in our hearts and minds as we study, the Bible becomes mere knowledge. The Holy Spirit is needed in order to turn knowledge into wisdom.

Observe (What does it say?): Before we can interpret the meaning of a passage, it's important that we first make observations in the verses we're reading. Take note of the grammatical, literary, and cultural elements of the passage. This involves considering key words, verbs, and connecting words, as well as the who, what, when, why, and how's of the passage. Ask yourself questions such as:

- *Who... Who is Paul talking about? Who is accomplishing the task? Who is benefiting from the action?*
- *Why... Why did Paul choose this word? Why did James include this phrase, statement? Why did Peter connect these ideas? Why did Paul not say _____?*
- *What... What is the meaning of this word? What is the significance of this phrase? What is the implication of this statement? What is the relationship between these phrases?*
- *How... How was this action accomplished? How will this situation occur?*

Interpret (What does it mean?) After careful observation, we can start trying to interpret what a certain verse or passage means. Our goal should be to determine what the author was saying to the original audience. In order to do this, we must understand the *context*. This entails reading the whole section, chapter, or book of whatever you're studying in order to understand the overall idea and the author's flow of thought.

Bible Study Methods

Interpret (continued): We can also define key words, study cross-references, and compare multiple translations. Commentaries such as *The New Illustrated Bible Commentary* or many others can be helpful. Websites like biblestudytools.com or blueletterbible.org are helpful in studying key words in the original languages for a deeper understanding. Ask yourself questions such as:

- What happened right before or right after the verses I am studying?
- What is the main idea of the chapter?
- What seems to be the author's flow of thought?
- What cross references help clarify?
- What key words need to be defined?
- What do other translations say?
- How does it relate to the main idea of the chapter?

Apply (How does it apply to me?): Application is the last and most important step in Bible study. After we've established what the author was trying to communicate to the original audience, we can apply these truths to our own lives. Through prayer and reflection, think through key principles learned in the passage you've studied. Ask yourself questions such as:

- *Is there something to worship or thank God for?*
- *Is there a promise for me to claim or a truth for me to believe?*
- *Is there something I am convicted about that I need to change or begin doing?*
- *Is there something I need to pray for specifically this week? Is there any relationship I need to work on?*
- *What exactly will I do differently this week to apply this principle to my life? Whom, other than the Lord, will I ask to help me follow through with this application?*



PHILIPPIANS

Week 1

Survey

SURVEY: WHAT IS THE BIG IDEA?

Surveying a book like Philippians allows us to understand the “big picture” before diving into details. This exercise will help us understand the context as we journey through the book together in the coming weeks. Begin by spending 15-20 minutes reading through the whole book in its entirety. Then, answer the questions below.

- 1) Who is the author of this letter? What do we know about him? What do we learn about him from this book?

- 2) Consider Paul’s audience? Based on what we read in the letter, what can we learn about them? What circumstances / struggles were they enduring?

- 3) What is the argument of the letter? In other words, why do you think Paul wrote it? What did he hope his listeners would do in response to his challenges, encouragements, and rebukes?

- 4) What questions do you have about this letter? Are there any difficult or challenging passages? Is there anything in the letter you’re hoping to understand as a result of this study?

BACKGROUND

Now that you've completed the survey of Philippians, read the material below. For further study, consult sources listed below.*

AUTHORSHIP

Paul, previously known as Saul, self-identifies as the author of the letter in verse one. Before his radical conversion to Christianity after meeting Jesus on the road to Damascus, Paul had been a violent persecutor of the early church. After meeting the risen Christ, he became the most influential missionary and church-planter in the early Christian movement. He corresponded with many churches throughout the Mediterranean throughout his ministry. These letters make up much of the New Testament and famously stress the effects of the faith on the way believers live and act. Paul is known as the "Apostle to the Gentiles" since he stressed the universality of the Gospel as good news to all peoples. He most likely was executed during Nero's persecution of Christians around AD 67.

AUDIENCE

The letter is addressed to the church in the city of Philippi, located in modern-day Turkey. The Philippian church held special significance to Paul as it was the first church he planted in Europe on his second missionary journey (Acts 16:11-40). The letter was most likely written by Paul when he was imprisoned in Rome. As the letter indicates, he is writing in part to thank the Philippian church for their latest gift delivered to him by Epaphroditus (a member of the Philippian congregation). The letter is more than just a thank you letter. He also wanted to encourage them in their faith, and to let them know that he was remaining hopeful in Christ, even though he may soon be executed.

THEME

The primary theme of the letter to the Philippians is encouragement. Paul is exhorting the members of the church in Philippi to live their lives in a manner consistent with their belief in Christ. He praises them for their faithfulness and kindness in the past and spurs them on toward greater faithfulness. Paul portrays Christ's humility and sacrifice as the chief example of a worthy life.

MY OUTLINE THE BOOK

Having read this background information for Philippians, create an outline with titles for each of the major sections. Resist the temptation to just copy the ones out of your Bible! There are many different approaches to outlining any Biblical book, so don't get hung up on being "right." Spend some time creating an outline that will be helpful to *you* as you study. [Tip: Consider where/when the author completes a thought and transitions to a new one. This will help you as you separate the book into sections.]

Example (*from Nelson's New Illustrated Commentary*):

- I. Salutation
- II. Paul's prayers for the Philippians (1:3-11)
 - A. Praise for the Philippians (1:3-5)
 - B. Promise: Paul's confidence in Christ and His Work (1:6, 7)
 - C. Prayer for the Philippians (1:8-11)

*Sources: Nelson's New Illustrated Commentary, Exalting Jesus in Philippians (Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary), and The Bible Project at <https://bibleproject.com/learn/philippians/>

*Other suggested sources: Matt Chandler (Philippians series on RightNow Media) and Blueletterbible.org

MY OUTLINE OF THE BOOK

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Write out Matthew 28:19-20

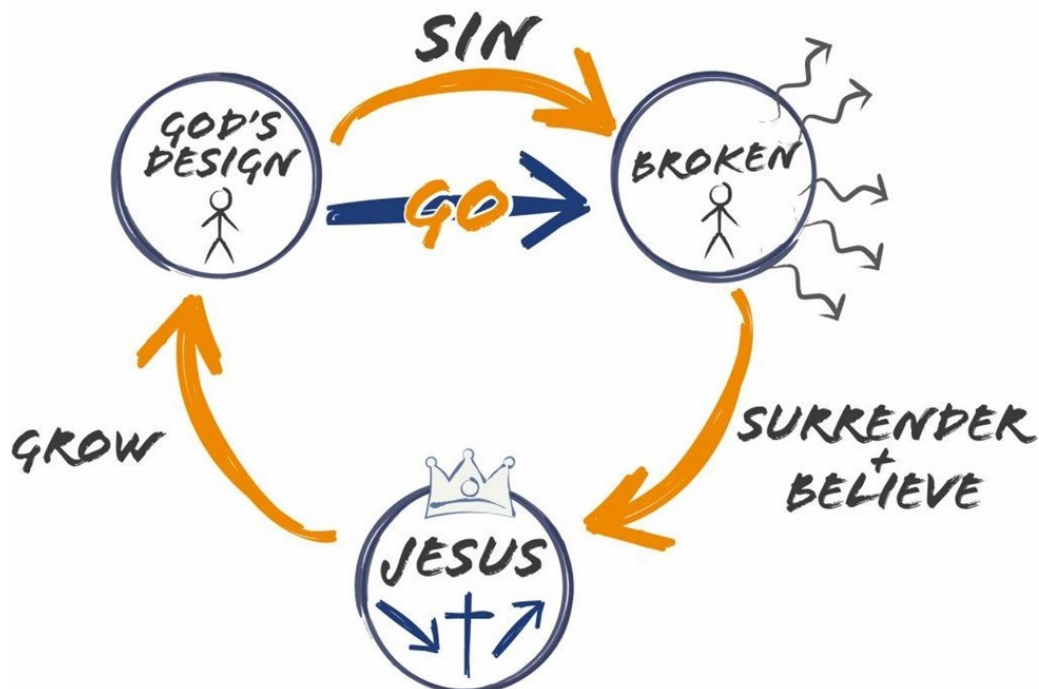
Write out 2 Timothy 2:2

Write out 1 Peter 3:15-16

The biblical mandate for Christians is clear. We are called to make disciples! To be ready to share our faith when the opportunity arises, and to actively look for those opportunities! There are a variety of ways to share the gospel, but last year we focused on sharing through The 3 Circles, Romans Road, and Your Personal Testimony.

Spend time reviewing each of those methods below.

The 3 Circles

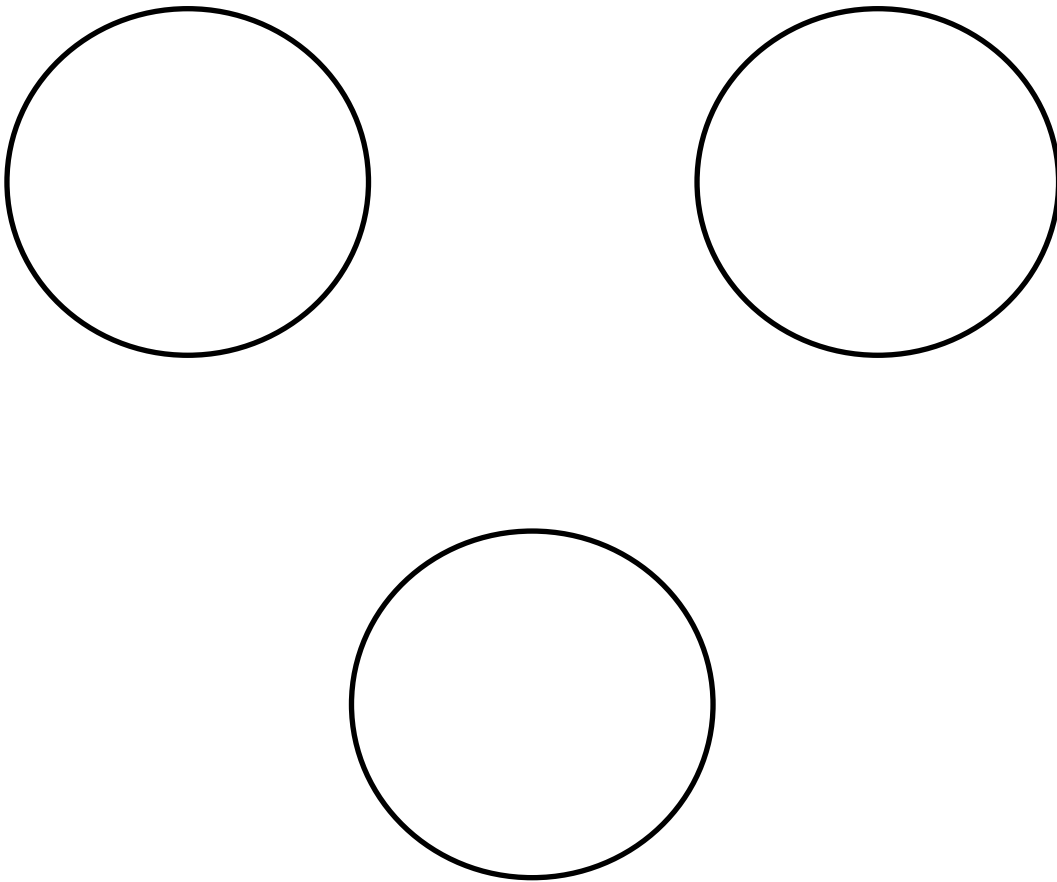


MY OUTREACH GOALS

The 3 Circles

Draw it out yourself, and rehearse it out loud 5 times.

The more you practice, the more confident and ready you will be to share.



MY OUTREACH GOALS

Romans Road

Intro:

Romans 3:23:

Transition:

Romans 6:23:

Transition:

Romans 5:8:

Transition:

Romans 10:9:

Closing:

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Personal Testimony

Work on sharing a 2-5 minute personal testimony. Take a few minutes to think through some helpful suggestions written by CRU. Write out your answer to these questions on the next page.

My Life Before Christ

What about my life before Christ will relate most to the non-Christians I know?

What did my life revolve around? Where did I get my security, identity or happiness from?

How did those things begin to let me down?

How I Came to Christ

When was the first time I heard the gospel? What were my initial reactions?

When and why did my perspective of Christ begin to change?

What were the final struggles that went through my mind just before I accepted Him? Why did I finally decide to accept Christ (or give Him complete control of my life)?

My Life After Coming to Christ

How is my life different now? List some specific changes in your character, attitude and perspective on life.

What motivates me now? What do I live for?

Even though my life still isn't perfect, how does knowing Christ help me deal with that fact?

Once you've thought through these questions, practice, practice, practice! Rehearse it 5 times and record it so that you can grow and push yourself to be confident in sharing the gospel.

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Personal Testimony



PHILIPPIANS

Week 2

Chapter I:I-II

CONTEXT: What happens right after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11 (NASB)

¹Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, ⁵in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶*For I am* confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work among you will complete it by the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this I pray, that your love may overflow still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may discover the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and blameless for the day of Christ; ¹¹having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which *comes* through Jesus Christ, for the glory and praise of God.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Out of an overflow of worship, as followers of Christ, and as messengers of the gospel, we get to joyfully pray for opportunities to share the good news.

One neat way to do this is by name-storming. Start by thinking of people in your spheres of life (work, gym, friends, family, etc.) who either do not know Jesus, or people who know Jesus but are not following Jesus and making disciples.

Write out those names and try to think of as many as you can.

Work

Friends

Family

Other

Once you have a good list, prayerfully consider 3-4 people on your list who you can start reaching out to. Commit to praying for those people by name, and then actively seek out opportunities to share Christ with them.

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PHILIPPIANS

Week 3

Chapter 1:12-26

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-26 (NASB)

¹² Now I want you to know, brothers *and sisters*, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, ¹³ so that my imprisonment in *the cause of Christ* has become well known throughout the praetorian guard and to everyone else, ¹⁴ and that most of the brothers *and sisters*, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear. ¹⁵ Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from goodwill; ¹⁶ the latter *do it* out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; ¹⁷ the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking that they are causing me distress in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in this I rejoice.

But *not only that*, I also will rejoice, ¹⁹ for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰ according to my eager expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but *that* with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

²¹ For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²² But if *I am* to live *on* in the flesh, this *will mean* fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose. ²³ But I am hard-pressed from both *directions*, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for *that* is very much better; ²⁴ yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sakes. ²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that your pride in Christ Jesus may be abundant because of me by my coming to you again.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Continue practicing and rehearsing sharing the gospel and sharing your testimony. Continue name-storming and prayerfully considering who God wants you to share with.

Respond to the following questions and consider having someone hold you accountable to them.

How is it going with sharing with the names you circled?

If you shared with someone, how did they respond? What is something you can do with them to follow up?

Look at your name list, who are 3-4 more people you can reach out to? Are there any new names you can add to the list?

As you continue seeking out opportunities to share, consider ways to transition conversation to the gospel. Here are some steps from *Crosswalk* to help guide your conversations:

1. Surface Talk - Is the person alive? Talk about the weather, sports, and so on.
2. Personal Talk - Will the person open up? Talk about family, jobs, or interests.
3. Religious Talk - Is there interest in spiritual things? Talk about religion, churches, or church activities.

If the friend is not interested in religious talk at this time, retreat to step two!

4. Spiritual Talk - Is the person seeking God? Talk about what Christ has done for you; ask his or her view of Christianity. Then invite him or her to a Bible study or share the gospel.

Let's examine these steps in a little more detail...

MY OUTREACH GOALS

1. Surface Talk

"This level of conversation is the perfect starting place for an evangelistic conversation. Your only goal at this point is to mention something more personal about yourself than the weather: family, school, work, neighbors, pets or anything that opens your life up just a little to this acquaintance. Just mention it, don't give your life story! Then, casually ask the acquaintance about that same area of his or her life.

Telling a person something about yourself gives you the unspoken right to ask that person the same thing. There are infinite possibilities for moving from surface talk to personal talk, as long as you remember your goal. You want people to open up about themselves. You are not interested in talking about yourself!

As they open up a little bit, tell them a little more about yourself, and then ask them more about themselves. Most people love to talk about themselves. If you practice listening to people, you will make enormous progress in your evangelistic efforts."

2. Personal Talk

"This level of conversation is easy. You will never run out of things to talk about. You can ask questions about a person's birthplace, hometown, family, education, work, vacations, retirement, interests and hobbies, music, artistic abilities, politics, cooking, history, and sports of all kinds.

Just remember, you don't have to be an expert in a field to ask someone's opinion about that subject. You just have to be a good listener. For the next week, spend thirty minutes a day starting conversations with strangers or acquaintances about surface topics and moving on to personal items. Then ask questions about their interests and do not talk about yourself. Try it! You will eventually see common interests develop."

3. Religious Talk

"The first levels of conversation are pre-evangelism. They're all about building rapport. Although most people may not respond positively toward the gospel, they do appreciate having someone ask them about themselves and listening to their ideas or their problems in life. A listening ear may be the very thing that causes a person to seek God."

"When you transition from surface talk to personal talk, you make a statement about yourself and then you ask the other person a question about that same area of his or her life. The transition process is the same between personal talk and religious talk. For example, when talking about how you spend your weekends, says, "Well, on weekends we usually [it doesn't matter what you do] on Saturday, and then we [eat in a restaurant, have friends over for lunch, whatever] after church." Wait a few seconds for body language, then continue with, "Do you attend church?" Continue asking questions and learning more about their view of God, the Bible, and Christianity.

4. Spiritual Talk

"If you have been constantly building bridges from one subject to another, you will start to notice if the person wants to proceed with the conversation. You want to ask yourself, "Does this person's actions and attitudes indicate that he or she wants to talk about spiritual things?" If you sense an openness after the religious talk, you can move to spiritual talk by going in a number of directions. You can ask them the age old: "If you were to die today, could you say for certain that you will go to heaven?"... "Why should God let you into His heaven?"

Possibly, invite them to study the Bible with you, or invite them to church. But at this point is the time to present the gospel through how the Spirit leads you, or possibly how you've been trained with the Romans Road, 3 Circles, or Your Personal Testimony.



PHILIPPIANS

Week 4

Chapter 1:27-30

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30 (NASB)

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

²⁷ Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; ²⁸ and in no way alarmed by *your* opponents—which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and this *too*, from God. ²⁹ For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer on His behalf, ³⁰ experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Respond to the following questions and consider having someone hold you accountable to them.

How is it going with sharing with the names you circled?

If you shared with someone, how did they respond? What is something you can do with them to follow up?

Look at your name list, who are 3-4 more people you can reach out to? Are there any new names you can add to the list?

Go back and look at the conversation tips from last week by Crosswalk. Reflect on these questions:

What is hard for you when trying to transition conversation to spiritual things?

What has worked well for you in regards to making this transition?

What are some good questions that could help you understand where someone is spiritually?

Who is someone that you can try to have more spiritual conversations with? How can you go about doing that?

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Consider some of these questions from *Explore The Bible* and try them out!

- 1) What is your perception of Christians?
- 2) What do you believe about God?
- 3) What do you think will be your greatest contribution in this life?
- 4) Is religion important to you? Do you consider yourself a religious person?
- 5) When you have problems or questions, who do you turn to for help?
- 6) From what or whom do you draw the strength to endure a difficult situation?
- 7) When you pray, who do you pray to? Why?
- 8) What do you think happens after our life here? What do you think it takes for a person to enter heaven?
- 9) What causes your greatest concern or stress?
- 10) What do you believe about the Bible? Have you ever read it for yourself? What did you think about what you read?
- 11) What do you believe about Jesus?
- 12) When do you feel close to God? When do you feel far away from Him?
- 13) How do you deal with regrets from your past?

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PHILIPPIANS

Week 5

Chapter 2:1-11

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11 (NASB)

¹ Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ² make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. ³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not *merely* look out for your own personal *interests*, but also for the *interests* of others. ⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, as He *already* existed in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself *by* taking the form of a bond-servant *and* being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death: death on a cross. ⁹ For this reason also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and *that* every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Continue name-storming praying through the questions on the previous pages.

As people begin responding to the gospel, the focus needs to be to equip these believers to make disciples and grow in their faith. Consider the following:

Are the people I'm training plugged into a church body? How can I help them find a biblical church to be a part of?

Am I training them in sharing the gospel and sharing their testimony?

How are they doing in witnessing to others and winning others to Christ?

Are they training others to share the gospel and share their testimony?

Are they helping others get plugged into a church body where they can find loving accountability?

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PHILIPPIANS

Week 6

Chapter 2:12-18

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-18 (NASB)**OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?**

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

¹² So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, both to desire and to work for *His* good pleasure.

¹⁴ Do all things without complaining or arguments; ¹⁵ so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding firmly the word of life, so that on the day of Christ I can take pride because I did not run in vain nor labor in vain. ¹⁷ But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all. ¹⁸ You too, *I urge you*, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

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MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Think back through the previous week. Where do you need to continue to grow (Romans Road, 3 Circles, Personal Testimony, Transitioning Conversation, Training Others to Make Disciples)?

What are some steps you can take this week in order to be more faithful in the Great Commission?

1)

2)

3)

4)



PHILIPPIANS

Week 7

Chapter 2:19-30

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30 (NASB)

¹⁹ But I hope, in the Lord Jesus, to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of your condition. ²⁰ For I have no one *else* of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek after their own *interests*, not those of Christ Jesus. ²² But you know of his proven character, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child *serv*ing his father. ²³ Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things *go* with me; ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that I myself will also be coming shortly. ²⁵ But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶ because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. ²⁷ For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly, so that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may be less concerned *about you*. ²⁹ Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold people like him in high regard, ³⁰ because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to compensate for your absence in your service to me.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Think back through the previous weeks. Where do you need to continue to grow (Romans Road, 3 Circles, Personal Testimony, Transitioning Conversation, Training Others to Make Disciples)?

What are some steps you can take this week in order to be more faithful in the Great Commission?

1)

2)

3)

4)



PHILIPPIANS

Week 8

Chapter 3:I-II

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11 (NASB)

¹Finally, my brothers *and sisters*, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things *again* is no trouble for me, and it is a safeguard for you.

²Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision; ³for we are the *true* circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and take pride in Christ Jesus, and put no confidence in the flesh, ⁴although I myself *could boast as* having confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he is confident in the flesh, I *have more reason*: ⁵circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.

⁷But whatever things were gain to me, these things I have counted as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them *mere* rubbish, so that I may gain Christ, ⁹and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith, ¹⁰that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; ¹¹if somehow I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Think back through the previous week. Where do you need to continue to grow (Romans Road, 3 Circles, Personal Testimony, Transitioning Conversation, Training Others to Make Disciples)?

What are some steps you can take this week in order to be more faithful in the Great Commission?

1)

2)

3)

4)



PHILIPPIANS

Week 9

Chapter 3:12 - 4:1

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

PHILIPPIANS 3:12-4:1 (NASB)

¹² Not that I have already grasped *it all* or have already become perfect, but I press on if I may also take hold of that for which I was even taken hold of by Christ Jesus. ¹³ Brothers *and sisters*, I do not regard myself as having taken hold of *it yet*; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Therefore, all who are mature, let's have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that to you as well; ¹⁶ however, let's keep living by that same *standard* to which we have attained.

¹⁷ Brothers *and sisters*, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us. ¹⁸ For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even as I weep, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ, ¹⁹ whose end is destruction, whose god is *their* appetite, and *whose* glory is in their shame, who have their minds on earthly things. ²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; ²¹ who will transform the body of our lowly condition into conformity with His glorious body, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

4 ¹ Therefore, my beloved brothers *and sisters*, whom I long *to see*, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Think back through the previous week. Where do you need to continue to grow (Romans Road, 3 Circles, Personal Testimony, Transitioning Conversation, Training Others to Make Disciples)?

What are some steps you can take this week in order to be more faithful in the Great Commission?

1)

2)

3)

4)



PHILIPPIANS

Week 10

Chapter 4:2-9

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

PHILIPPIANS 4:2-9 (NASB)

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord. ³ Indeed, true companion, I ask you also, help these women who have shared my struggle in *the cause of* the gospel, together with Clement as well as the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentle *spirit* be known to all people. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers *and sisters*, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

MY NOTES

GROUP PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Think back through the previous week. Where do you need to continue to grow (Romans Road, 3 Circles, Personal Testimony, Transitioning Conversation, Training Others to Make Disciples)?

What are some steps you can take this week in order to be more faithful in the Great Commission?

1)

2)

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4)

The background features abstract, overlapping patterns. On the right, there are diagonal teal and grey stripes. On the left, there are grey and white curved shapes. In the bottom left, there are several yellow, teardrop-shaped elements scattered on a dark grey background.

PHILIPPIANS

Week 11

Chapter 4:10-23

GETTING STARTED

- **MEMORY VERSE:** Write out your memory verse from last week.

- **CONTEXT:** What happened before or after this passage? What is the main idea of the chapter? What seems to be the author's flow of thought?

OBSERVE: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

(Ask interpretive questions. Look for key words, verbs, and connecting words. Also, look for the who, what, when, where, why, & how of the passage)

PHILIPPIANS 4:10-23 (NASB)

¹⁰But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned *before*, but you lacked an opportunity *to act*. ¹¹Not that I speak from need, for I have learned to be content in whatever *circumstances* I am. ¹²I know how to get along with little, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every *circumstance* I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. ¹³I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. ¹⁴Nevertheless, you have done well to share *with me* in my difficulty.

¹⁵You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first *preaching* of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving except you alone; ¹⁶for even in Thessalonica you sent *a gift* more than once for my needs. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift *itself*, but I seek the profit which increases to your account. ¹⁸But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰Now to our God and Father *be* the glory forever and ever. Amen.

²¹Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. ²²All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household.

²³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Answer interpretive questions. Look at the context, define key words, look at cross-references, and compare translations)

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN: WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT MAN?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

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MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Think back through the previous week. Where do you need to continue to grow (Romans Road, 3 Circles, Personal Testimony, Transitioning Conversation, Training Others to Make Disciples)?

What are some steps you can take this week in order to be more faithful in the Great Commission?

1)

2)

3)

4)

The background features abstract, overlapping patterns in teal, grey, and yellow. The teal patterns consist of diagonal stripes and curved bands. The grey patterns are more geometric, with angular shapes and lines. The yellow patterns are small, teardrop-like shapes scattered across a dark grey area in the lower-left quadrant.

PHILIPPIANS

Week 12

Synthesis

SYNTHESIS: How does it all fit together?

During the last few months we have observed, interpreted, and applied the whole book of Philippians. Our final goal is to create an overall summary in order to remind us of truths learned, as well as the flow and content of the account of Philippians.

MY OUTLINE OF THE BOOK

The first step of synthesizing is to create your own outline of the book of Philippians. During the survey at the beginning of our study we created an outline of the book, but now as we have completed our study of Philippians, we want to create another new revised outline. Review your summary sentences and completed work from each week in order to help you create your new outline.

REFLECT ON WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED

The second step is to create a list of the theological truths and life lessons you learned through your study of Philippians. Go back and review each lesson in order review key theological truths learned, attributes of God, and application principles.

THEOLOGICAL TRUTHS LEARNED:**LIFE LESSONS LEARNED:****RECORD APPLICATIONS TO CONTINUE PRACTICING**

Lastly, prayerfully choose key application principles learned from the book of Philippians that you feel led to continue practicing. Think about areas of your life where growth is needed, and think of 2 or 3 specific, measurable, and achievable goals. Record the chapter and verse in Philippians that represented this principle. Compose a specific plan of action in order to apply these principles in your life.

APPLICATION PRINCIPLE #1**APPLICATION PRINCIPLE #2****APPLICATION PRINCIPLE #3**

MY OUTREACH GOALS

Vision: Write out Matthew 28:19-20 & 1 Peter 3:15-16

Spend time reflecting on your outreach methods and goals these past few months.

- *How did you learn and grow this semester in regards to making disciples?*

- *What was discouraging about the process? What was encouraging?*

- *How can you take the next step in becoming a faithful believer who makes disciples who make disciples?*

- *Going forward, what would help you to be more confident at doing so?*

- *What goals do have in the future when it comes to making disciples?*

End your time by praying to God, thanking Him for the privilege it is to co-labor with Him in the Great Commission. Ask Him to embolden you to be a faithful witness going forward!

