

“PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL”

Philippians Series Outlines



- 1) God's Not Finished Yet (1:1-6)
- 2) A Prayer for Christian Growth (1:7-11)
- 3) Advancing the Gospel (1:12-18a)
- 4) For to Me to Live Is What? (1:18b-26)
- 5) Living Worthy of the Gospel (1:27-30)
- 6) True Christian Fellowship (2:1-4)
- 7) The Humble Obedience of Jesus (2:5-11)
- 8) Shine Like Stars (2:12-18)
- 9) Two Christ-like Servants (2:19-30)
- 10) Knowing Christ (3:1-11)
- 11) Eyes on the Prize (3:12-16)
- 12) Citizens of Heaven (3:17-21)
- 13) Instructions for Earth (4:1-9)
- 14) The Secret of Contentment (4:10-13)
- 15) Supporting the Gospel (4:14-23)

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“God’s Not Finished Yet” (Philippians 1:1-6)

I. We are all partners in the gospel together (Phil. 1:1-2)

- A. The gospel brings people from different backgrounds together (Acts 16)
- B. We are all saints in Christ Jesus
- C. Leaders and lay people are partners together

II. God began a good work in you when you received Christ (Phil 1:3-5)

- A. Paul thanks God for the Philippians every time he remembers them (3)
- B. In all his prayers for all of them, he always prays with joy (4)
- C. Why? Partners in the gospel from the first day until now (5)

III. God will finish the good work he started in you. (Phil. 1:6)

- A. God has good works for you to do (Eph 2:10; Psalm 138:8)
- B. How does God complete his work in you?
 - justification in the past (Romans 5:1)
 - sanctification in the present (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)
 - glorification when Christ returns (Romans 8:28-30)
- C. God is also completing the good work he began in the church

“A Prayer for Christian Growth” (Philippians 1:7-11)

I. The motivation for prayer – love for each other (Phil. 1:7-8)

- A. Love for each other as partners in the gospel (7)
- B. Loving each other with the affection of Christ Jesus (8)

II. The content of the prayer – Christian growth (Phil. 1:9-10)

- A. Pray to grow in love (9a)
- B. Pray to grow in knowledge (9b)
- C. Pray to grow in discernment (9b-10a)
- D. Pray to grow in holiness (10b)

III. The result of the prayer – changed lives resulting in praise and glory to God! (Phil. 1:11)

- A. The fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus (11a)
- B. To the glory and praise of God (11b)

“Advancing the Gospel” (Philippians 1:12-18a)

I. Nothing is more important than advancing the gospel

- A. Advancing the gospel was more important to Paul than his own freedom (12-14)
 - 1) Paul’s imprisonment allowed him to share the gospel with the whole palace guard (13)
 - 2) Paul’s imprisonment encouraged other believers to share the gospel more boldly (14)

- B. Advancing the gospel was more important to Paul than his own comfort (15-18)
 - 1) Not everyone shared Christ from pure motives (15)
 - 2) Some tried to stir up trouble for Paul in prison (16-17)
 - 3) Either way, Paul rejoiced that Christ was preached! (18)

II. Nothing can stop the gospel from advancing

- A. God wants to use your present life circumstances as a platform to advance the gospel

- B. The gospel is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes (Romans 1:16)

“For Me to Live is What?” (Philippians 1:18b-26)

I. Paul’s Passion for Christ’s Honor (19-20)

- A. Paul is confident that God will deliver him
 - 1) He quotes from Job 13:15-16
 - 2) God will deliver him from the temptation to deny Christ

- B. How will God deliver him?
 - 1) the prayers of God’s people
 - 2) the help of the Holy Spirit

- C. Christ exalted in his body, whether by life or by death
 - 1) will not be ashamed but will have sufficient courage
 - 2) also now as always – this was the pattern of Paul’s life

II. Paul’s Purpose for Living (21)

- A. To live is Christ

- B. To die is gain

III. Paul’s Predicament in the Face of Death (22-26)

- A. Torn between two choices
 - 1) to depart and be with Christ – better for Paul!
 - 2) to go on living in the body – better for the Philippians!

- B. Convinced he will remain
 - 1) for your progress and joy in the faith
 - 2) so your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow

“Living Worthy of the Gospel” (Philippians 1:27-30)

I. Whatever happens! (27a)

- A. Determine to live for Christ no matter what happens

- B. Trust God in the good times and the bad times

II. One man! (27b)

- A. Stand firm in the Holy Spirit

- B. Work together as a team for the gospel

III. No fear! (28-30)

- A. Do not fear those who oppose you
 - 1) You are on the winning team

 - 2) Your fearlessness is a sign to them

- B. Do not fear suffering for Christ
 - 1) Suffering for Christ is a gift of God's grace

 - 2) Other believers are suffering for Christ too

“True Christian Fellowship” (Philippians 2:1-4)

Three Principles of True Christian fellowship (TCF):

I. TCF is motivated by God’s love for us in Christ. (verse 1)

- A. If you have any encouragement in Christí
- B. If you have any comfort from God’s loveí
- C. If you have any fellowship with the Holy Spirití
- D. If you have any tenderness and compassioní

II. TCF is united around the gospel of Christ. (verse 2)

- A. Being like-minded
- B. Having the same love
- C. Being one in spirit and purpose

III. In TCF we humbly serve each other as modeled by Christ. (verses 3-4)

- A. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit
- B. Consider other better than yourselves
- C. Look to the interests of others, not just yourself

“The Humble Obedience of Jesus” (Philippians 2:5-11)

I. Have the same attitude as Jesus (5)

II. The humble obedience of Jesus (6-8)

A. He started at the highest place (øequality with Godø)

B. He traveled to the lowest place (ømade himself nothingø)

1) He became a servant

2) He became a human being

3) He became obedient to death

4) He suffered the humiliation of the cross

III. God’s glorious exaltation of Jesus (9-11)

A. God exalted him to the highest place

B. God gave him the name that is above every name

C. At the name of Jesus every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord

D. This all brings glory to God the Father

“Shine Like Stars” (Philippians 2:12-18)

I. Work out your salvation (12-13)

- A. You can't work out what you don't already have
- B. Don't take the working out of your salvation lightly
- C. It won't work out unless God is already working

II. Back up your witness with your life (14-16)

- A. No complaining or arguing
- B. Stand out from the world
- C. Hold forth the word of life to others

III. Rejoice in the sacrifice (17-18)

- A. Pour yourself out in service to others
- B. Mutual sacrifice, mutual joy

“Two Christ-like Servants” (Philippians 2:19-30)

I. Timothy – example of an unselfish servant (19-24)

A. Take a genuine interest in others (19-20)

B. Put Christ's interests first (21)

C. Prove yourself in the work of the gospel (22-24)

II. Epaphroditus – example of a suffering servant (25-30)

A. Ministry does not exempt you from suffering (25-26)

B. Ministry increases your burdens along with your joys (27-28)

C. Ministry involves risk (30)

D. Honor those who give their lives in ministry to others (29)

“Knowing Christ” (Philippians 3:1-11)

I. Watch out for those who would draw your attention away from Christ (1-3)

- A. Rejoice in the Lord
- B. Watch out for false teachers
- C. Hold on to your identity in Christ

II. Put your confidence in Christ, not in yourself (4-7)

- A. Do not put confidence in your background
- B. Do not put confidence in your achievements
- C. Count these things as loss for the sake of Christ

III. Make knowing Christ the supreme desire of your life (8-11)

- A. Consider everything a loss compared to knowing Christ
- B. Be found in Christ having the righteousness that comes by faith
- C. Become like Christ in his death and resurrection

“Eyes on the Prize” (Philippians 3:12-16)

I. Make God’s goals your own (12)

- A. Be honest about where you are in your Christian walk

- B. Align your goals with God’s goal for your life

II. Keep a forward focus at all times (13-14)

- A. Get rid of all distractions

- B. Forget what is behind, strain toward what is ahead

- C. Press on toward the goal to win the prize

III. Don’t lose ground in your walk with Christ (15-16)

- A. All mature believers will share this same attitude

- B. Make sure you live up to what you have already attained

“Citizens of Heaven” (Philippians 3:17-21, 4:3)

Four characteristics of the citizen of heaven:

I. Your name is written in heaven’s book (4:3)

II. Your behavior is governed by heaven’s laws (3:17)

III. Your mind is focused on heaven’s values (3:18-19)

IV. Your eyes are watching for heaven’s Savior (3:20-21)

“Instructions for Earth” (Philippians 4:1-9)

1) Stand firm in the Lord (1)

2) Agree with each other (2-3)

3) Rejoice in the Lord – always! (4)

4) Let your gentleness be evident – to all (5)

5) Don't worry – pray! (6-7)

6) Think good thoughts (8)

7) Put it into practice (9)

“The Secret of Contentment” (Philippians 4:10-13)

I. Rejoice in God’s provision (10)

II. Be content whatever your circumstances (11-12)

III. Look to Christ for your strength (13)

“Supporting the Gospel” (Philippians 4:14-23)

When you support the gospel with your finances:

- 1) You further the spread of the gospel (14-15)

- 2) You supply the needs of Christian workers (16)

- 3) You store up treasure in heaven (17)

- 4) Your gift is an act of worship that is pleasing to God (18)

- 5) God promises to meet all your needs (19)

- 6) To God be the glory! (20)

Final greetings:

- 1) Each person in the body of Christ is important (21)

- 2) We are all partners in the gospel together (22)

- 3) We owe all to the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (23)