

## Workbook on Philippians

### Assignments on Philippians 1

Please read the whole book of Philippians at least once as we study chapter 1.

Answer the following questions on chapter 1.

1. Who wrote this letter, and to whom is it addressed – 1:1?

2. List some things you know about Paulo.

3. List some things you know about Timotheo.

4. Special Assignment: Study a Scripture dictionary or similar book about the city of Philippi.

List some things you learned.

5. Make a list of Scripture passages outside the book of Philippians that refer to the city or Ekklesia at Philippi (use a concordance and cross-references).

6. Summarize what the Scriptures says about Philippi (the city or the Ekklesia) outside the book of Philippians.

7. After you have read the whole epistle, state the theme of the book.

8. List some of the main points discussed in each chapter.

Extra Assignment: As you study the book, make a list of things the book says about joy and a list of things it says about support of Gospel preachers.

9. List other passages about saints.

10. Case Study: Many people believe that saints are especially good Followers who died and have been appointed by a Ekklesia so people can pray to them. How would you respond?

11. Define “overseers.” List other passages about overseers.

12. Case Study: Some Ekklesias teach that overseers are a different office from elders. Others use “pastor” as just another name for a preacher. According to the Scriptures, what is the difference between overseers, elders, and pastors?

13. Define “deacons.” List other passages about deacons and their work.

14. How did Paulo express his view of the Philippians in 1:3,4?

15. For what in particular did he give thanks in 1:5? Explain what he meant.

16. What confidence did Paulo express in 1:6? How does Aleim work in the lives of His people? Conditionally or unconditionally? Explain.

17. How did the Philippians partake of Paulo’s work and blessings – 1:7? Explain.

18. List the things for which Paulo prayed on behalf of the Philippians in 1:8-11.

19. Explain the connection between love, knowledge, and discernment. How do they relate to one another? Why should we abound in them?

20. What results would this love, knowledge, and discernment have in their lives if they applied them properly – 1:10,11? Why is it important to be sincere and without offence?

21. What are the fruits of righteousness?

How much fruits of righteousness should we seek to have? What would the end result be?

22. Where was Paulo at the time he wrote this (1:7,13-16)? How did he view the results of the troubles that he faced – 1:12?

23. Who had opportunity to learn as a result of Paulo's circumstances – 1:13? (Think: How might this have happened?)

24. What effect had Paulo's circumstances had on most brethren – 1:14? Is this what would normally be expected? Explain.

25. What good motives did some have for preaching – 1:15-17?

26. What bad motives did others have?

27. How did Paulo view the preaching of the Gospel, regardless of the motives of the preachers – 1:18? Would he have thought this way if these men were teaching error? Explain.

28. Application: Give examples that illustrate how people today sometimes preach truth but with bad motives. Does Aleim approve of their bad motives? What lessons should we learn?

29. What did Paulo expect to result from his circumstances – 1:19? What did he believe would bring about this result?

30. Was he certain whether he would live or die – 1:20? In neither case, what did he expect and hope would be the most important outcome?

31. What advantage did Paulo believe there would be if he continued to live – 1:21-24? Explain how this would be an advantage.

32. What advantage did he see if he were to die? Explain that advantage.

33. Did Paulo prefer life or death? What does this tell you about Paulo's faith and about his circumstances? (Think: Why might Paulo be discussing this with the Philippians?)

34. What outcome did Paulo have confidence would result from his circumstances – 1:25? How would this benefit the Philippians?

35. Did he hope to see them again – 1:26? What ultimate effect would this have?

36. Whether or not Paulo saw them again, what kind of life did he urge them to lead – 1:27?

What is required in order to live such a life?

37. How does he describe their need for unity? What can we learn from this about unity and what it takes to be united?

38. How should they view their adversaries – 1:28? What would be demonstrated about their enemies and about the Philippians?

39. What is expected of followers of The Anointed One according to 1:29? List other passages about suffering for the cause of The Anointed One.

40. Special Assignment: How did the Philippians' circumstances relate to those of Paulo – 1:30? Explain how this may relate to the things he has discussed about his own circumstances throughout the chapter.

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### Assignments on Philippians 2

Try to read the whole book of Philippians again as we study chapter 2.

Answer the following  
questions on chapter 2.

1. In what attitudes and blessings should we participate – 2:1?

List and define each.

2. What should these attitudes and blessings produce in our lives – 2:2? Is unity just a matter of doctrinal correctness, or does it also require proper attitudes? Explain.

3. In order to have unity, what should not motivate our conduct – 2:3? How do these improper attitudes hinder unity in a congregation?

4. To have proper unity, how should we view others – 2:3,4? Explain how these attitudes will promote unity in a congregation.

5. Many translations of 2:3 say we should count others better than ourselves. Check other translations, and explain the meaning of this idea.

6. Where should we learn the proper attitude that Paulo is encouraging – 2:5? Explain. (Note that verse 5 introduces the specific way that IESO showed us an example in verses 6-8. These verses should be studied together as a unit.)

7. What position did IESO have from eternity – 2:6? Compare “form of Aleim” (2:6) with “form of a servant” (2:7). What can you learn about the meaning of “form” as used here?

8. Special Assignment: List other passages about the deity of IESO. Did IESO truly possess the nature of Aleim? Explain and prove your answer.

9. Notice Hebrews 13:8. If IESO possessed the nature of deity, could He lose that nature or the qualities that are essential to that nature? Did IESO still possess deity on earth? Explain.

10. List various translations of the last part of 2:6. Explain the significance of grasping equality with Aleim or thinking equality with Aleim to be robbery as in these translations (note v7).

11. List various translations of the first part of 2:7. (Think: Once again, is it possible for deity to lose the characteristics or nature of deity?)

12. Special Assignment: Study the first part of 2:7 in light of the rest of verses 7,8. In what sense does the passage say that IESO emptied Himself or made Himself of no reputation?

13. In what way did IESO demonstrate humility according to 2:7,8? What lessons should we learn from this according to the context in 2:1-5?

14. List other passages about the humanity of IESO. Was IESO really a man on earth? Was He really Aleim on earth?

15. What position has IESO been given because of what He did – 2:9? Explain. (Think: How is the word “name” used in verses 9,10?)

16. What honour will men give IESO for what He has done – 2:10,11?

17. What do we learn about salvation in 2:12? Explain fear and trembling.

18. List other passages that show that salvation requires us to work – that is, to obey. Does this mean we earn salvation? Explain.

19. Explain the significance of the fact we must work out our own salvation. List other

passages showing that salvation is an individual responsibility.

20. In what sense does Aleim work in us to will and to do His good pleasure – 2:13? Does this mean we have no choice about serving Aleim? Explain.

21. How should we serve the Ruler according to 2:14? What lessons should we learn?

22. What characteristics should children of Aleim seek to develop– 2:15? Explain.

23. Why is it important for Followers to have such characteristics according to the passage?

List other passages about our influence or example as Followers.

24. What role should the word of Aleim have in our lives and example – 2:16? In what sense would their conduct affect Paulo?

25. How did Paulo view his service to them – 2:17,18? How was this a cause for joy?

26. What plans did Paulo have for Timotheo – 2:19? What was his purpose in this?

27. What praise did Paulo give Timotheo in 2:20?

28. What criticism did Paulo raise of others in 2:21? What lessons should we learn?

29. How had Timotheo demonstrated faithfulness – 2:22? How would the Philippians know this?

30. What hope did Paulo express for the future – 2:23,24?

31. Describe the things we know about Epaphrhodito according to the book of Philippians.

32. How does Paulo describe Epaphrhodito in 2:25? What should we learn about how to describe and address Gospel preachers?

33. Explain the sense in which Epaphrhodito was the messenger of the Philippians. List other related verses in the book of Philippians.

34. Why was Epaphrhodito distressed – 2:26? How serious was his problem – 2:27?

35. What had Aleim done for Epaphrhodito? In what sense was this a blessing to Paulo?

36. Special Assignment: List passages that explain the main purpose of miracles.

Explain why Paulo did not work a miracle to heal Epaphrhodito.

37. Why was Paulo sending Epaphrhodito back to Philippi – 2:28?

38. How did Paulo want the Ekklesia in Philippi to treat Epaphrhodito – 2:29?

39. What reason does Paulo give why they should especially respect Epaphrhodito – 2:30?



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### Assignments on Philippians 3

Try to read the whole book of Philippians again as we study chapter 3.

Answer the following  
questions on chapter 3.

1. What is the source or ground of a Follower's joy – 3:1? Is our joy based primarily on our physical circumstances? Explain.
2. What reason does Paulo give why he would write to them things they already knew? Explain the value of repetition in teaching.
3. What warning does Paulo give in 3:2? Explain the terms that are used. What specific group of people would Paulo be talking about (note the reference to circumcision in verse 3)?
4. Who does Paulo say are the real circumcision – 3:3? List other passages showing the significance of being spiritually circumcised under the Gospel.
5. What does it mean to have confidence in the flesh – 3:3 (note the context)? How does this apply to the people that Paulo is discussing?
6. What claim does Paulo make regarding confidence in the flesh – 3:4? What is his point?
7. What proofs does Paulo give of his fleshly credentials – 3:5? Explain them.
8. How does he describe his zeal – 3:6? How did his conduct demonstrate his zeal?

9. What claim did he make about the law? What did this prove about his life as a Jew?

10. Special Assignment: What do verses 4-6 show about Paulo's dedication to the Jewish religion? How would such facts affect his influence when he was converted?

11. After Paulo was converted, how did he view the advantages he had as a Jew – 3:7?

12. What reason does he give in 3:8,9 why he was willing to suffer such losses? How did the things that he gave up compare to what he gained?

13. How was Paulo made righteous – 3:9? List other similar passages.

14. Case Study: Some people use verse 9 to claim there is nothing we can do to be saved, but Aleim must do everything to save us. Explain the sense in which we do not have our own righteousness but are made righteous by Aleim. What did this have to do with the old law?

15. Application: Based on Paulo's discussion, explain the lessons we should learn about our own willingness to sacrifice to serve Aleim.

16. What goal did Paulo pursue according to 3:10? What does it mean to know IESO? How can we know the power of His resurrection?

17. How can we have fellowship in IESO's sufferings and be conformed to His death?

18. What goal did Paulo pursue according to 3:11? Since all will be raised, in what sense should we seek to attain to the resurrection?

19. What did Paulo say that he had not yet achieved – 3:12,13? In what sense this was true?

20. Application: Explain the sense in which Paulo forgot things behind and reached forward to things ahead. Give applications that show the importance of this principle to us.

21. Toward what did Paulo press – 3:14? Explain what this goal or prize is.

22. What application should Paulo's discussion have to us – 3:15,16? What will Aleim do to help us in this, and how does He do it?

23. How should Paulo's instructions affect our conduct and our thinking – verse 16?

24. How should Paulo's example benefit us – 3:17? Who else should be a pattern for us?

25. Case Study: Some have denied that Scriptural examples constitute binding authority.

What do we learn from verse 17 about the importance of following examples? List other passages about following examples.

26. Whose example should we not follow – 3:18,19? How does Paulo describe them? (Think: In what sense was their belly their Aleim?)

27. In what sense do people set their mind on earthly things? List other similar passages.

How does this help us understand whom Paulo is discussing (compare verses 1-4)?

28. Where is our citizenship – 3:20? What does this teach about our priorities?

29. Who is already in heaven, and what do we anticipate that He will do – 3:21? List other similar passages.

30. What power does IESO have? What does this show us about His character?

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### Assignments on Philippians 4

Try to read the whole book of Philippians again as we study chapter 4.

Answer the following  
questions on chapter 4.

1. How did Paulo describe the Philippians in 4:1? What did he urge them to do?
2. What two women did he address in 4:2? What did he urge them to do? What should we learn?
3. What had these women done, and what should others do for them – 4:3? What can we learn about women's role in working for the Ruler?
4. List other passages about the Book of Life. Explain the significance of having one's name in the Book of Life.
5. What does Paulo again admonish them to do in 4:4? List some reasons we have for rejoicing in the Ruler.
6. 4:5 encourages us to practice "gentleness." What do other translations say instead of gentleness? What should we learn and how does this help us to have unity?
7. In what sense is the Ruler at hand? What should we learn?
8. The Scriptures in 4:6 says to be careful for nothing. List alternate translations. Explain the meaning.

9. List other passages about anxieties and how to deal with worries.

10. Application: How are we taught to deal with our anxieties in 4:6? How would these practices help us when we are anxious? Explain specific applications we need to learn.

11. If we practice proper prayer and proper attitudes towards our anxieties, what will be the result – 4:7? How was Paulo himself an example of this?

12. Define “meditate.” List the things on which Paulo says we should meditate and explain the meaning of each – 4:8?

13. Application: Explain why it matters what we focus our minds on. How can this help us in our choices, such as in entertainment, priorities, spirituality, courage, etc.?

14. How does the meditation that Aleim’s word advocates differ from the meditation of Hinduism, the New Age movement, and other Oriental religions?

15. What does Paulo encourage the Philippians to practice in 4:9? What can we learn about teaching by example and about following New Testament examples? (See also 3:17.)

16. What joy did Paulo express in 4:10?

17. Define “content.” What did Paulo say he learned in 4:11,12?

18. Application: Paulo says this is a secret he learned. What are some things we need to learn in order to understand the secret? Is it always wrong to improve our circumstances?

19. What was the source of the strength Paulo had – 4:13? What could he do as a result?

20. Application: What can we do through the strength The Anointed One provides? Can satan or people around us ever place temptations before us that are impossible to overcome? Explain.

21. How had the Philippians shared with Paulo according to 4:14-16? When and where had they shared with Paulo?

22. According to other passages, how had the Philippians' gift been conveyed to Paulo? Did Ekklesias send funds to a central board of directors or the elders of another Ekklesia who in turn oversaw the use and distribution of the funds?

23. According to 1 Petrho 5:1-3; Acts 20:28; 14:23, what Ekklesia should any specific eldership oversee? Does any New Testament passage authorize the elders of one Ekklesia to oversee the work and funds of another Ekklesia in evangelism?

24. Under what circumstances did Ekklesias send funds to another Ekklesia? See Acts 11:27-30; Romans 15:25-27; 1 Corinthians 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8 and 9.

25. Case Study: In the sponsoring Ekklesia arrangement, Ekklesias donate funds to be supervised by the elders of the sponsoring Ekklesia, which is as financially capable of doing its own work as are the sending Ekklesias; but the sponsoring Ekklesia has assumed ongoing oversight of a work that was as much the responsibility of the sending Ekklesias as it was of the sponsoring Ekklesia. How would the passages we have studied apply to such a case?

26. What was especially important to Paulo about the Philippians' gift – 4:17? In what way would this abound to the Philippians' account?

27. How had the Philippians' gift been sent to Paulo – 4:18? Explain the expressions that he used to describe the gift.

28. What blessings did Paulo believe Aleim would give to the Philippians – 4:19? Compare 2 Corinthians 9:8-10.

29. Who receives the ultimate glory when Aleim's people serve Him – 4:20? Explain.

30. What greetings does Paulo send in 4:21-23? What is the significance of the reference to Caesar's household?