

Discovery Bible Study

Philippians Series

Part 1 of 4

February 2010

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Acknowledgements

There are many people who have helped me along the way.

A big thank you goes to Pam, a fellow Bible teacher, who introduced me to inductive style Bible study.

My deepest heartfelt thanks goes to Susan, my prayer warrior, encourager, spiritual accountability partner, and friend.

Thank you, Juanita, for believing in the vision set before me, joining the cause, and partnering with me in this journey.

Thanks goes to Helen for her role in mentoring me through her passionate focus of excellence in the workplace. She shares a similar passion for Christ as I do. Thank you for shining so brightly for Jesus.

To Toni, my life long friend, who is always there to talk things through and pray with me, thank you for being there for me.

Thanks to all the ladies in my workplace small group Bible study who were patient and eager to test every new idea I came up with.

A big thanks to Kelleen and Rita, who both share a special burden with me and are prayer partners as well.

Thank you to all ThinkOnIt Bible Devotion readers as well. Thanks to all who commented or replied to my blog devotions. You are an encouragement and a source of joy to me. Without you, this ministry would be meaningless.

Dedication

This book is dedicated to my husband, of 23 years, Steve. He has been like Jesus Christ to me. Without his love, forgiveness, and support, I wouldn't be where I am today. I love you, Steve.

Introduction

Welcome to ThinkOnIt Bible Ministries' Discovery Bible Study – Philippians Series. As we look at the Book of Philippians, we'll use Inductive Study Method. Below you will find an outline of Inductive Study Method. First part is to OBSERVE what we read. Second part is INTERPRET what we read. Third part is all about APPLICATION and discovering how we might live differently.


RED – STOP – OBSERVE WHAT IT SAYS
Just like at a red traffic light, we stop. God wants us to stop and look at the facts of His Word. What do we see? What's going on? Are there any comparisons? Are there any contrasts? Are there any lists? Are there any repeated words or phrases?
YELLOW – SLOW DOWN – LOOK AT MEANING
When we approach a yellow traffic light, we slow down. We need to slow down when reading God's Word too. Take time to think about the meaning of the words we just read. What does it mean? What did the author intend to convey? Are there any words you aren't familiar with? If so, look them up in a dictionary.
GREEN – GO – DO WHAT WE LEARN
Approaching a green traffic light, we go. It's the same with God's Word. We need to apply what we learned. Go and do the truth we discovered. Think about how should we live our life differently? What is God's Word telling us to do or not do? What timeless principle can we glean from this passage?

Refer to the Discovery Questions section on page 8 for a list of questions to help you study God's Word.

It's always suggested to take notes as you study. Sometimes the act of writing helps us to grasp the truth we are studying. Therefore, we offer a couple Bible marking techniques. Interaction with God's Word helps point out things we might otherwise gloss over.

Bible Marking Suggestion

Philippians 1: 1-11 NIV

¹Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, 

To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

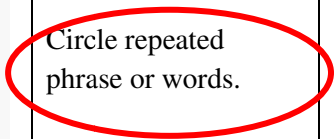
²Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.


³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Underline the facts

 Circle repeated phrase or words.

 Draw a triangle next to any reference to God, Jesus or Holy Spirit.

Discovery Questions

Observation	Interpretation	Application
<p>Who is writing to whom?</p> <p>When and where does this occur?</p> <p>What is the purpose of this writing?</p> <p>What is going on in this passage?</p> <p>What facts do you see?</p> <p>Are there any repeated words or phrase?</p> <p>Are there any contracts or comparisons in this passage?</p> <p>Are there any lists?</p>	<p>What do we learn from the people in this passage?</p> <p>Is there any error we should avoid?</p> <p>Is there a truth we should know?</p> <p>Is there an example we should follow?</p> <p>Is there a promise to remember?</p> <p>What do we learn about God, Holy Spirit, or Jesus Christ?</p> <p>What timeless principle do you see?</p>	<p>How can I apply the timeless principle in my life today?</p> <p>Does my attitude need to change?</p> <p>Is there a sin I need to confess?</p> <p>What prayer can I pray?</p> <p>What truth do I need to start living by?</p> <p>Which verse will I memorize?</p> <p>Who will I share this truth with?</p> <p>What can I thank God for?</p>

Recommended Resources

Kay Arthur is a renowned inductive style Bible teacher. Her book *“How to Study the Bible”* is a great resource to understand more about inductive style study method. Buy your copy by clicking on the book cover at: <http://www.ThinkOnItBible/Devotions.com/Studies.aspx>

Encouraging and Equipping you with God's Word

Instructions

Things to print:

- Discovery Questions on page 8
- God's Word Outline starting on page 10

1. Select about 10 to 15 versions to start with. Pick a section with one complete thought.
2. Start with prayer.

Father, open my eyes to your truth today.

Lead me in what I need to learn.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

3. Read the entire chapter for context.
4. Read aloud the 10-15 verses only.
5. Ask the Observe Discovery Questions. Write down your answers.
6. Ask the Interpret Discovery Questions. Write down your answers.
7. Ask the Application Discovery Questions. Write down your answers.
8. End with prayer.

Father thank you,

for your word and your guidance.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

God's Word

Philippians 1

Greeting

¹ Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops^[a] and deacons:

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thankfulness and Prayer

³ I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, ⁵ for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ; ⁷ just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace. ⁸ For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ.

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and

Encouraging and Equipping you with God's Word

without offense till the day of Christ, ¹¹ being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Christ Is Preached

¹² But I want you to know, brethren, that the things *which happened* to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; ¹⁴ and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: ¹⁶ The former^[b] preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; ¹⁷ but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁸ What then? Only *that* in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.

To Live Is Christ

¹⁹ For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰ according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified 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* live on in the flesh, this *will mean* fruit from *my* labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³ For^[c] I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, *which is* far better. ²⁴

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Nevertheless to remain in the flesh *is* more needful for you.²⁵ And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith,²⁶ that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again.

Striving and Suffering for Christ

²⁷ Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel,²⁸ and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation,^[d] and that from God.²⁹ For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,³⁰ having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear *is* in me.