

Discovery Bible Study

Philippians Series

Part 2 of 4

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Elizabeth Marks

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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:

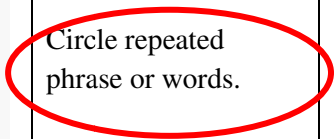
²Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.


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

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 verses 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 2

Unity Through Humility

¹ Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, ² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being of one accord, of one mind.* ³ *Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

The Humbled and Exalted Christ

⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient *to the point of* death, even the death of the cross. ⁹

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and

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of those under the earth, ¹¹ and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Light Bearers

¹² Therefore, my beloved, 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 works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

¹⁷ Yes, and if I am being poured out *as a drink offering* on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸ For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

Timothy Commended

¹⁹ But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. ²⁰ For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.

²¹ For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. ²² But you know his proven character, that as a son with *his* father he served with me in the gospel. ²³ Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me. ²⁴ But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly.

Epaphroditus Praised

²⁵ Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; ²⁶ since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. ²⁷ For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. ²⁹ Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem; ³⁰ because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.