

Discovery Bible Study

Philippians Series

Part 4 of 4

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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:

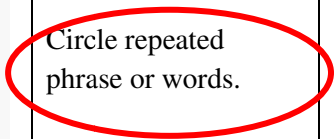
²Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.


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 4

¹ Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

Be United, Joyful, and in Prayer

² I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ And^[a] I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and 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 gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Meditate on These Things

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. ⁹ The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Encouraging and Equipping you with God's Word

Philippian Generosity

¹⁰ But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: ¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³ I can do all things through Christ^[b] who strengthens me.

¹⁴ Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. ¹⁵ Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. ¹⁶ For even in Thessalonica you sent *aid* once and again for my necessities. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. ¹⁸ Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things *sent* from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. ²⁰ Now to our God and Father *be* glory forever and ever. Amen.

Greeting and Blessing

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

²³ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.^[c] Amen.