



The
PHILIPPIANS
CHALLENGE

a devotional study through
the book of Philippians



WEEK ONE

Philippians 1:1–18

The
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CHALLENGE



DAY 1

PHILIPPIANS 1:1–2

1. How does Paul identify himself and Timothy in Philippians 1:1a?
 - a. How does this speak to you?

2. According to Philippians 1:1b, to whom is this letter addressed?
 - a. Rewrite this short address as if it were written to you.

3. Take a moment to consider Paul's greeting in Philippians 1:2 by supplying a definition of:
 - a. Grace

 - b. Peace

4. What does Paul say about those from whom this *grace* and *peace* proceeds:
 - a. God

 - b. Jesus

5. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:1–2?



DAY 2

PHILIPPIANS 1:3–5

1. Use Philippians 1:3–5 to comment on the following phrases from Paul's greeting:
 - a. I thank my God
 - b. Every remembrance of you
 - c. Always in every prayer
 - d. Making request
 - e. With joy
 - f. Your fellowship in the gospel
 - g. From the first day until now

2. What is your greatest takeaway from Paul's greeting to the Philippians?



DAY 3

PHILIPPIANS 1:6-8

1. To underscore the depth of Paul's declaration in Philippians 1:6, comment on the following highlights:
 - a. Confident of this very thing
 - b. He who has begun
 - c. A good work
 - d. Will complete it
 - e. Until the day of Jesus Christ

2. What is your greatest takeaway concerning this declaration?



DAY 3 CONT.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6–8

3. From Philippians 1:7a and 8, note and comment on Paul's affection for these believers.
 - a. How does this speak to you about the affection believers are to have for one another?

4. Take a moment to consider the integral part that the following played in Paul's *chains*, *defense*, and *confirmation* of the gospel:
 - a. The Philippians

 - b. Grace

5. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:6–8?



DAY 4

PHILIPPIANS 1:9–11

1. Use Philippians 1:9–11 to explore the following requests from Paul’s prayer for the believers in Philippi:
 - a. Love
 - b. Knowledge
 - c. Discernment
 - d. Approve
 - e. Sincere
 - f. Without offense
 - g. Filled with the fruits of righteousness
2. Why do you think these requests are essential for believers?
3. What is your greatest takeaway from Paul’s prayer?



DAY 5

PHILIPPIANS 1:12–14

1. Before you explore these verses, note that Paul was writing this epistle from a prison in Rome and awaiting his trial before the Emperor Nero. With this in mind, use the following verses to comment on what God was doing in the midst of Paul’s circumstances:
 - a. Verse 12
 - b. Verse 13
 - c. Verse 14

2. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:12–14?



DAY 6

PHILIPPIANS 1:15–18

1. Use the following verses to contrast the ways in which some preached Christ:
 - a. Verses 15a and 16

 - b. Verses 15b and 17

2. What was Paul's attitude toward those who preached Christ? Philippians 1:18

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:15–18?





WEEK TWO

Philippians 1:19–30

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DAY 1

PHILIPPIANS 1:19–20

1. What did Paul *know* about his situation? Philippians 1:19
 - a. Comment on the following agencies involved in Paul's *deliverance* from death at the hands of the Romans:
 - (1) Prayer

 - (2) Supply of the Spirit

2. What was Paul's *earnest expectation and hope*? Philippians 1:20
 - a. How is Paul an example for you?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:19–20?



DAY 2

PHILIPPIANS 1:21–22

1. What was Paul's personal perspective on his life? Philippians 1:21

2. How would you honestly fill in the following blanks:

For me to live is _____ and to die is

_____.

3. According to Philippians 1:22, what would living *on in the flesh* mean to Paul?

4. How are you challenged by Paul's perspective on life and death?

5. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:21–22?



DAY 3

PHILIPPIANS 1:23–24

1. What did Paul consider *far better*? Philippians 1:23
 - a. What do you think he meant by *hard pressed*?
2. What did Paul consider *needful* for the Philippians? Philippians 1:24
3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:23–24?



DAY 4

PHILIPPIANS 1:25–26

1. What was Paul *confident* of? Philippians 1:25
 - a. Explore the following phrases from Paul's future plans:
 - (1) Your progress

 - (2) Joy of faith
2. What effect would Paul's deliverance have on the Philippians? Philippians 1:26
 - a. What does this convey to you about:
 - (1) Paul's relationship with the Philippians

 - (2) Paul's motivation to visit the Philippians
3. Take special note and comment on the references to joy in these verses.
4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:25–26?



DAY 5

PHILIPPIANS 1:27–28

1. No matter what happened to Paul, what was his desire for the Philippian believers? Philippians 1:27–28

2. Comment on the meaning of the following phrases:
 - a. Stand fast

 - b. In one spirit

 - c. One mind

 - d. Striving together

 - e. Faith of the gospel

 - f. Not in any way terrified



DAY 5 CONT.

PHILIPPIANS 1:27–28

3. Why do you think the Philippians' brave faith would be a proof of *perdition* to their adversaries?
4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:27–28?



DAY 6

PHILIPPIANS 1:29–30

1. From Philippians 1:29, comment on what had been *granted* to the Philippians.
 - a. What does the word *granted* convey to you concerning your faith and suffering?

2. What *same conflict* do you think the Philippians shared with Paul?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 1:29–30?





WEEK THREE

Philippians 2:1-16

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DAY 1

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-4

1. Explore the following phrases from Philippians 2:1:
 - a. Consolation in Christ

 - b. Comfort of love

 - c. Fellowship of the Spirit

 - d. Affection

 - e. Mercy

2. From Philippians 2:2, comment on the purpose and use of these attributes.

3. Using Philippians 2:3, give an example of the following attitudes that are prohibitive to unity:
 - a. Selfish ambition

 - b. Conceit



DAY 1 CONT.

PHILIPPIANS 2:1–4

4. In contrast to *selfish ambition* and *conceit*, describe the attitude believers are to exhibit toward one another. Philippians 2:3b–4

5. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:1–4?



DAY 2

PHILIPPIANS 2:5–8

1. Use Philippians 2:5–8 to describe the *mind* of Christ.
2. Why do you think it is essential that believers have the *mind* of Christ?
3. Suggest some ways to cultivate the *mind* of Christ.
4. What are some practical evidences that the *mind* of Christ is resident in a believer?
5. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:5–8?



DAY 3

PHILIPPIANS 2:9–11

1. In response to Jesus's mindset and absolute obedience to the Father, what has God done for Him? Philippians 2:9
 - a. Keep in mind that in the Bible a name is more than nomenclature; it has to do with the character, testimony, reputation, glory, and work of a person. With this in mind, how would you describe the name of Jesus?
 - (1) Why is the name of Jesus superior to every other name?
2. According to Philippians 2:10–11, what will be the overwhelming and ultimate response to Jesus's name?
3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:9–11?



DAY 4

PHILIPPIANS 2:12–13

1. Philippians 2:12 begins with the word *therefore*. This word serves as a reminder of the worthiness and grandeur of Jesus as the basis for what will follow. On the basis of Jesus's name, what are these Philippian believers to do? Philippians 2:12

2. While we *work out* with God, what does God *work* in us? Philippians 2:13

3. Take a moment to further explore the following phrases from Philippians 2:12–13:
 - a. My beloved

 - b. As you have always obeyed

 - c. Work out your own salvation

 - d. With fear and trembling

 - e. For it is God



DAY 4 CONT.

PHILIPPIANS 2:12–13

- f. Works in you
 - g. To will
 - h. To do
 - i. For His good pleasure
4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:12–13?



DAY 5

PHILIPPIANS 2:14–15

1. According to Philippians 2:14, how can we further cooperate with God's work in us?
 - a. What does the requirement of *all things* convey to you?
 - b. Personally, what might your cooperation entail?

2. Use Philippians 2:15 to expound on the following results of what happens when we cooperate with God in *all things*:
 - a. Become blameless

 - b. Harmless

 - c. Children of God

 - d. Without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation

 - e. Shine as lights in a dark world

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:14–15?



DAY 6

PHILIPPIANS 2:16

1. While God works in us of His own good pleasure to make us His children who shine as lights in the world, we are to hold fast *the word of life*. Explain what this phrase means and how it applies to your own life. Philippians 2:16a

2. Describe the effect that the Philippian believers' spiritual growth and cooperation with God would have on Paul. Philippians 2:16b
 - a. How does this speak to you about the way in which your spiritual growth affects other believers?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:16?





WEEK FOUR

Philippians 2:17–30

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DAY 1

PHILIPPIANS 2:17–18

1. How did Paul describe his present sufferings? Philippians 2:17
2. What did Paul urge the Philippians to do *with* him? Philippians 2:18
3. Take a moment to note and comment on all the references to joy in these verses.
4. How is Paul an example to you?
5. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:17–18?



DAY 2

PHILIPPIANS 2:19–20

1. Use Philippians 2:19–20 to answer the following questions:
 - a. Who did Paul *trust* concerning his plans?

 - b. What were Paul's plans?

 - c. Why did Paul make these plans?

 - d. What was unique about Timothy?
 - (1) Why did these qualities make Timothy the right person to send on Paul's behalf?

2. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:19–20?



DAY 3

PHILIPPIANS 2:21–24

1. Contrast the mindset of those mentioned in Philippians 2:21 with:
 - a. Jesus (Philippians 2:5–8)

 - b. Timothy (Philippians 2:20)

2. Use Philippians 2:22 to describe Timothy's *proven character*.

3. According to Philippians 2:23–24, what were Paul's future plans?

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:21–24?



DAY 4

PHILIPPIANS 2:25–26

1. How does Paul describe Epaphroditus? Philippians 2:25
 - a. What stands out to you the most from this description?

2. How does Epaphroditus stand in stark contrast to those mentioned by Paul in Philippians 2:21?

3. What was Epaphroditus *longing* for and why was he *distressed*? Philippians 2:26

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:25–26?



DAY 5

PHILIPPIANS 2:27–28

1. From Philippians 2:27, what do you observe about:
 - a. Epaphroditus

 - b. God

 - c. Paul

2. What did Paul expect to be the outcome of sending Epaphroditus *eagerly* to the Philippians? Philippians 2:28

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:27–28?



DAY 6

PHILIPPIANS 2:29–30

1. According to Philippians 2:29, how were the Philippians to:
 - a. Receive Epaphroditus

 - b. Hold such men

2. Use Philippians 2:30 to characterize the mindset of Epaphroditus and such men.
 - a. Draw from your life, church history, or the Bible, to choose a person who has exemplified this same mindset and briefly share his/her story.

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 2:29–30?





WEEK FIVE

Philippians 3:1–11

The
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CHALLENGE



DAY 1

PHILIPPIANS 3:1–2

1. *Finally*, what was Paul's main instruction to the Philippians? Philippians 3:1a

2. According to Philippians 3:1b, how did Paul feel about writing the *same things* to the Philippians?

3. In order to safeguard the Philippians, what type of people did Paul warn them against? Philippians 1:2
 - a. What does the word *beware* convey to you about the danger of such people?

 - b. What precautions do you need to take in order to *beware* of these kinds of people?

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:1–2?



DAY 2

PHILIPPIANS 3:3

1. Note the supremacy of our spiritual identity through faith in Christ by commenting on the following phrases from Philippians 3:3:
 - a. We are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit

 - b. Rejoice in Christ Jesus

 - c. Have no confidence in the flesh

2. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:3?



DAY 3

PHILIPPIANS 3:4-7

1. Use Philippians 3:4-6 to list Paul's qualifications as a Mosaic authority.
 - a. How did these qualifications empower Paul to speak with authority?

2. According to Philippians 3:7, how did he feel about his former *gain*?
 - a. What things have you personally *counted loss for Christ*?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:4-7?



DAY 4

PHILIPPIANS 3:8

1. Use Philippians 3:8 to describe Paul's mindset toward:
 - a. All things

 - b. The knowledge of Christ

 - c. His loss

2. Write your personal perspective on:
 - a. All things

 - b. The knowledge of Christ

 - c. Loss

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:8?



DAY 5

PHILIPPIANS 3:9

1. Underscore Paul's mindset by elaborating on the following phrases from Philippians 3:9:
 - a. Found in Him

 - b. Not having my own righteousness, which is from the law

 - c. Faith in Christ

 - d. Righteousness which is from God by faith

2. Why do you think what Paul gained *through faith* was superior to the righteousness he had sought by the law?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:9?



DAY 6

PHILIPPIANS 3:10–11

1. From Philippians 3:10–11, comment on Paul's ultimate objectives in life:
 - a. Know Him

 - b. Power of His resurrection

 - c. Fellowship of His sufferings

 - d. Conformed to His death

 - e. Attain (arrive) to the resurrection from the dead

2. What would you list as your:
 - a. Life objectives

 - b. Spiritual objectives

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:10–11?





WEEK SIX

Philippians 3:12–21

The
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DAY 1

PHILIPPIANS 3:12

1. From Philippians 3:12, comment on:
 - a. Paul's self-assessment

 - b. Paul's objective

2. What would you say is your:
 - a. Spiritual self-assessment

 - b. Objective

3. Take a moment to list some of the purposes that you feel God has for your life.

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:12?



DAY 2

PHILIPPIANS 3:13–14

1. What do you suppose Paul meant when he stated, *Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended?* Philippians 3:13a

2. What was the *one thing* that Paul found crucial? Philippians 3:13b
 - a. Why do you think this was so crucial to Paul?

 - b. In order to fully enter into God's call for your life, what did you have to forget, or do you need to forget?

3. Use Philippians 3:14 to describe Paul's appraisal of the *call of God*.
 - a. How does Paul's appraisal speak to you about the *call of God*?

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:13–14?



DAY 3

PHILIPPIANS 3:15–16

1. Recalling Paul’s mindset from Philippians 3:12–14, remark on the mindset of those Paul called *mature*. Philippians 3:15a
2. Comment on what Paul said concerning those who *think otherwise*. Philippians 3:15b
3. *Nevertheless*, whether you are mature or think otherwise, whether you have attained to the call of God or not, how are you to *walk*? Philippians 3:16
4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:15–16?



DAY 4

PHILIPPIANS 3:17–19

1. In what ways were the *brethren* to *join* Paul? Philippians 3:17
2. Use Philippians 3:18–19 to comment on Paul's description of those who do not *walk* after Christ.
3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:17–19?



DAY 5

PHILIPPIANS 3:20

1. What do the following words or phrases from Philippians 3:20 convey to you about the believers' mindset:
 - a. Citizenship is in heaven
 - b. Eagerly wait
 - c. Savior
 - d. The Lord Jesus Christ

2. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:20?



DAY 6

PHILIPPIANS 3:21

1. According to Philippians 3:21a, what will the Lord Jesus do when believers reach heaven?
2. Use Philippians 3:21b to remark on how and why *He is able* to do this.
3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 3:21?





WEEK SEVEN

Philippians 4:1–9

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PHILIPPIANS
CHALLENGE



DAY 1

PHILIPPIANS 4:1–3

1. Describe Paul's affection for the Philippian believers. Philippians 4:1a

2. What is Paul's instruction to these *beloved* believers? Philippians 4:1b

3. Use Philippians 4:2–3 to identify the following:
 - a. Euodia and Syntyche

 - b. The problem

 - c. The need

 - d. The right approach

 - e. The value of these women

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:1–3?



DAY 2

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5

1. Read Paul's instruction in Philippians 4:4 and answer the following questions:
 - a. What are believers to do?

 - b. When are believers to do this?

 - c. How are believers to do this?

 - d. Why do you think this is vital for all believers to do?

 - e. How would you suggest someone implement Paul's instruction?

2. Describe the quality believers are to be *known* by. Philippians 4:5a
 - a. What does the phrase *all men* convey to you?

 - b. Suggest some practical ways this attitude can be lived out.



DAY 2 CONT.

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5

3. According to Philippians 4:5b, what is the motivation behind this attitude?

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:4-5?



DAY 3

PHILIPPIANS 4:6

1. What does it look like in your life to be *anxious*?
 - a. What are some of the things in life that make you *anxious*?

2. According to Philippians 4:6, what are you to do when you begin to feel *anxious*?

3. Remark on the importance of the following terms from Philippians 4:6:
 - a. Everything

 - b. Prayer

 - c. Thanksgiving

 - d. Requests

 - e. Known to God

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:6?



DAY 4

PHILIPPIANS 4:7

1. Use Philippians 4:7 to comment on the following:
 - a. The prescription for peace (see Philippians 4:6)

 - b. The quality of peace

 - c. The power of peace

2. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:7?



DAY 5

PHILIPPIANS 4:8

1. Using Philippians 4:8, explain what the following qualifications for godly meditation mean to you:
 - a. True
 - b. Noble
 - c. Just
 - d. Pure
 - e. Lovely
 - f. Of good report
 - g. Virtuous
 - h. Praiseworthy



DAY 5 CONT.

PHILIPPIANS 4:8

2. Using the qualities listed in the previous question, find an antonym for each:
 - a. e.
 - b. f.
 - c. g.
 - d. h.

3. Why is what a believer meditates on so important?

4. What do the following words further convey to you about your thoughts:
 - a. Whatever

 - b. Things

 - c. Meditate

5. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:8?



DAY 6

PHILIPPIANS 4:9

1. According to Philippians 4:9, the believers were to remember the *things* that Paul taught them and lived out before them. As a believer today, how would you comment on the following spiritual *things*:
 - a. You have learned
 - b. You have received
 - c. You have heard
 - d. You saw in me (exemplified to you)
2. What does Paul say will be the reward of doing these *things*? Philippians 4:9b
3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:9?





WEEK EIGHT

Philippians 4:10–23

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DAY 1

PHILIPPIANS 4:10–11

1. Comment on the reason for Paul's rejoicing. Philippians 4:10
 - a. What does this verse convey to you about the Philippian believers?

2. According to Philippians 4:11, what had Paul *learned*?
 - a. Why do you think this was a beneficial lesson for the apostle to learn?

 - b. Why is this a beneficial lesson for you as well?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:10–11?



DAY 2

PHILIPPIANS 4:12-13

1. From Philippians 4:12, note and comment on the ways in which Paul learned contentment:
 - a. How

 - b. Where

 - c. In

 - d. What

2. Share a lesson you have learned about contentment.

3. Use Philippians 4:13 to comment on the following phrases:
 - a. I can

 - b. Do

 - c. All things



DAY 2 CONT.

PHILIPPIANS 4:12–13

- d. Through Christ
 - e. Who strengthens me
4. Print this verse here replacing the pronoun / with your own name.
 5. Share something that you were able to do by Christ's strength working in you.
 6. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:12–13?



DAY 3

PHILIPPIANS 4:14–17

1. Use Philippians 4:14–16 to summarize:
 - a. Paul's situation at *the beginning of the gospel*

 - b. The Philippians' contribution and support

2. According to Philippians 4:17, why did Paul seek *the gift* from the Philippians?
 - a. How does this speak to you about your gift of giving and contribution to the ministry of the gospel?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:14–17?



DAY 4

PHILIPPIANS 4:18

1. Use Philippians 4:18 to comment on:
 - a. Paul's attitude

 - b. Epaphroditus

 - c. Paul's appraisal of the Philippians' gift

2. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:18?



DAY 5

PHILIPPIANS 4:19

1. Elaborate on Paul's declaration in Philippians 4:19 by expounding upon the following phrases:
 - a. Supply
 - b. All your need
 - c. According to His riches
 - d. By Christ Jesus
2. How does this declaration minister to you concerning your:
 - a. Needs
 - b. God's resources
 - c. God's response
3. Share a time or way that God has supplied your need.
4. What is your greatest takeaway from Philippians 4:19?



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