

DAILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

*"THE GRASS WITHERS, THE FLOWER FADES,
BUT THE WORD OF OUR GOD WILL STAND FOREVER."*

ISAIAH 40:8



THIS READING PLAN IS FOR YOU!

Hey Gospel City, we want to join our church together in the reading of Philippians. This reading plan is for adults and kids, men and women, individuals and families! Follow along in your daily devotions, or gather the kids around the dinner table. Let us glorify God and build one another up in love by ministering the Word to each other.

WHY PHILIPPIANS?

The apostle Paul wrote his letter to the Philippians from a prison cell. So he knew a little bit about what it was like to be "quarantined." Paul wrote to the Philippians to teach them what he had learned about how to have joy in all circumstances, even in the midst of suffering. This message is extremely relevant to us today. How do we think about the sufferings and hardships caused by the Coronavirus? Where is God in all of this? As Christians, how should we respond? How do we live in a world that is not our home? Philippians answers these questions and much, much more!

THE FORMAT OF THE READING PLAN WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

READ:

We will take a week to go through the letter, which averages out to be about 15 verses per day. What you will read is living and active (Heb. 4:12). It has the power to revive your soul (Ps. 19:7). Its truth is worth more than fine gold (Ps. 19:10), and it will never fail or fade away (Is. 40:8). Go to it humbly, hear God speak, and be reminded of the Hope that you have in Jesus.

MEDITATE ON:

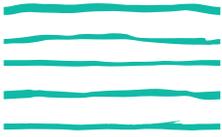
Simply reading the Word is like briskly walking by a warm fire on a cold night. But meditation is like sitting by the warm fire so that it lights up for your face and warms your bones. (Don Whitney, *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian life*). Therefore, pick a verse from each section to meditate on. What does it mean? What does it say about God? What does it say about you? What do you need to do to obey? You can pick any verse. But we will suggest a verse each time in case you have trouble picking one.

DISCUSS THIS:

We do not want to just be hearers of the Word; we want to be doers of the Word as well. Ask yourself and those around you how you can apply the text, how you can obey the text, and how you can bring glory to your Father in heaven.

PRAY THIS:

Pray to your Father that the Holy Spirit would empower the Word of Christ to become true in your hearts, your lives, this church, and this world. Pray the Word back to God. For he always answers us when we pray according to his will (1 John 5:14). And the best way to pray according to his will is to pray his Word!



DAILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

WEEK 1: PHILIPPIANS



SUNDAY | DAY 1

READ: PHILIPPIANS 1:1-18

MEDITATE ON:

"I THANK MY GOD IN ALL MY REMEMBRANCE OF YOU, ALWAYS IN EVERY PRAYER OF MINE FOR YOU ALL MAKING MY PRAYER WITH JOY."

V3-4

DISCUSS THIS:

Does Paul's love for the church challenge you? How could you express love for someone from our church community today? Pick one person to call and encourage them with the Word. And pick two people to pray for.

PRAY THIS:

Father, we thank you for Gospel City Church. We pray that you would grow our love for you and for each other. We pray that you would help us to pray. The Spirit is willing, but our flesh is weak, oh Lord. Help us to pray, that our hearts might be filled with the fruits of righteousness, that we might be ready for the return of the Lord Jesus, and that we might bring glory to you, our Father.

MONDAY | DAY 2

READ: PHILIPPIANS 1:19-30

MEDITATE ON:

"ONLY LET YOUR MANNER OF LIFE BE WORTHY OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST."

V27

DISCUSS THIS:

Paul did not let his imprisonment stop him from preaching the gospel and living for Christ. In what ways can we live for Christ while we are quarantined?

PRAY THIS:

Father, thank you for the Gospel. Thank you for sending your Son. Thank you for the hope that we have in heaven. Help us to live for Christ and help us view death as gain, that we might live a life worthy of your Gospel.

TUESDAY | DAY 3

READ: PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

MEDITATE ON:

"DO NOTHING FROM SELFISH AMBITION OR CONCEIT, BUT IN HUMILITY COUNT OTHERS MORE SIGNIFICANT THAN YOURSELVES."

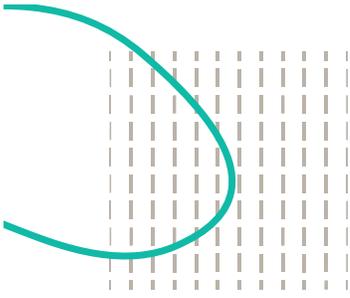
V3

DISCUSS THIS:

We are told to think of Christ as we obey Paul's command to consider others more significant than ourselves. In what ways did Christ consider others more significant than himself? And how does He help us obey this command?

PRAY THIS:

Father, thank you for Jesus. Thank you for sending him to live the life we could never live, to die the death we deserve to die, and for raising him on the third day that we might love you, love each other, and look forward to the day where every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Christ is King.



WEEK 1: PHILIPPIANS

WEDNESDAY | DAY 4

READ: PHILIPPIANS 2:12-30

MEDITATE ON:

“DO ALL THINGS WITHOUT GRUMBLING OR DISPUTING, THAT YOU MAY BE BLAMELESS AND INNOCENT, CHILDREN OF GOD WITHOUT BLEMISH IN THE MIDST OF A CROOKED AND TWISTED GENERATION, AMONG WHOM YOU SHINE AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD.”

V14-15

DISCUSS THIS:

How is the command to do all things without grumbling or disputing connected with the goal of being a shining light in the world? What are some ways we can shine the light of Jesus right now?

PRAY THIS:

Father, we thank you that our salvation. We thank you that the working out of our salvation brings you pleasure. You are such a good, gracious, and loving God. We pray that you would work in us in such a way that our lives would shine the light of Jesus to a dark world.

THURSDAY | DAY 5

READ: PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11

MEDITATE ON:

“INDEED, I COUNT EVERYTHING AS LOSS BECAUSE OF THE SURPASSING WORTH OF KNOWING CHRIST JESUS MY LORD. FOR HIS SAKE I HAVE SUFFERED THE LOSS OF ALL THINGS AND COUNT THEM AS RUBBISH, IN ORDER THAT I MAY GAIN CHRIST.”

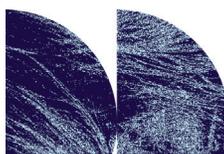
V8

DISCUSS THIS:

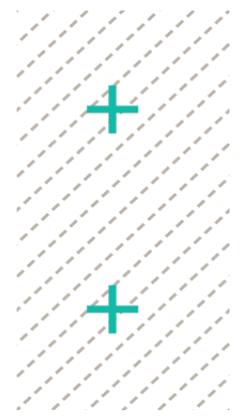
What are some things that you have left behind in order to follow Jesus? How has he proved to be worth more than anything you left behind?

PRAY THIS:

Father, forgive us for when we trust in ourselves and not in Jesus. Forgive us for trying to earn our salvation. Forgive us for loving anything in this world more than we love Jesus. Help us to see Jesus as more beautiful and valuable than anything in this world. Help us to forsake everything for the sake of knowing Christ.



WEEK 1: PHILIPPIANS



FRIDAY | DAY 6

READ: PHILIPPIANS 3:12-4:3

MEDITATE ON:

“BUT OUR CITIZENSHIP IS IN HEAVEN AND FROM IT WE AWAIT A SAVIOR, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO WILL TRANSFORM OUR LOWLY BODY TO BE LIKE HIS GLORIOUS BODY, BY THE POWER THAT ENABLES HIM EVEN TO SUBJECT ALL THINGS TO HIMSELF.”

V20-21

DISCUSS THIS:

How does your citizenship in heaven impact the way you live in this world? What are some things about heaven that you are most looking forward to?

PRAY THIS:

Father, we thank you that you have given us the Spirit of adoption through the work of your Son, that we might be heirs of the God of the universe and have citizenship in your heaven. Impress upon our hearts the hope of heaven, and help us view this fading world through the lens of your eternal glory. And please send Jesus back quickly. Amen.

SATURDAY | DAY 7

READ: PHILIPPIANS 4:4-23

MEDITATE ON:

“REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS; AGAIN I WILL SAY, REJOICE. LET YOUR REASONABLENESS BE KNOWN TO EVERYONE. THE LORD IS AT HAND. DO NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING, BUT IN EVERYTHING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN TO GOD.”

V4-6

DISCUSS THIS:

What commands are given in verses 4-6? What are some practical ways you could live that out this week? And how does the promise in v7 help encourage you to believe that obeying the commands in v4-6 might be possible?

PRAY THIS:

Father, help us to rejoice always. Help us to be reasonable with one another. Thank you that you do not leave us alone but are right here with us. Help us to focus on what is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, and commendable so that we can guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Help us to so fill our hearts and minds with your Word that there is no room left for anxious thoughts. Amen

