



Philippians

BIBLE READING JOURNAL

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*"I can do all things through Christ
which strengtheneth me."*

Philippians 4:13

Introduction to Philippians

This letter is a happy letter. There is no doubt that Paul is writing to people he had a close relationship with. When we know who the original members of the Philippian ecclesia were, and the circumstances through which they became members we can maybe understand why: the generous and hospitable Lydia, and her household; and the jailor who would have killed himself had Paul not stopped him, and who instead washed their stripes and was baptised and all his household.

This letter is a happy letter. There is no doubt that Paul is writing to people he had a close relationship with.

When Paul was looking out westward wondering where to go next to share the Gospel, a man of Macedonia came to him in a vision and said, "Come over into Macedonia, and help us!" And Paul went, and the result was a lovely little ecclesia who became examples of generosity and love in their support of the poor Jews in Judea and in their care and support of Paul in his ministry.

Paul wrote this letter to them while in prison in Rome to reassure them of his well-being and to encourage them to continue in their love of the Gospel and to follow his example of enduring any adversity with joy.

Read this letter and you too will find that if you follow the example of Paul, who followed the example of the Lord Jesus, you also "can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth" you.

Words to look for in each chapter:

- ☞ gospel;
- ☞ anything to do with joy;
- ☞ anything to do with bonds, suffering, serving;
- ☞ anything to do with the mind;
- ☞ anything to do with following, example

Philippians Chapter 1

• Colour •

Colour in references to **Paul** in one colour,
and the references to the **Philippian ecclesia** in another colour.

• Look Deeper •

Look for the words listed on page 1.

Use what you find to make lists, ie.:

- *what is to cause joy or be rejoiced in?*

- *how are bond, service, suffering to be thought of?*

- *how is the mind or its thoughts to be controlled?*

• Expand •

Give the chapter a **title**.

What is Paul's **main point** in this chapter?

In each section of the chapter, take note of what we can **learn** about each subject:

v. 1-11 – prayer _____

v. 12-20 – preaching _____

v. 21-30 - self-sacrifice _____

• Use •

- ❖ What specific instruction does Paul give to the Philippians?

- ❖ What example to follow from Paul's life are we given?

- ❖ What does this chapter tell us that Jesus should be to us?

Philippians Chapter 2

• Colour •

Colour in references to **Paul** in one colour,
and the references to the **Philippian ecclesia** in another colour.

• Look Deeper •

Look for the words listed on page 1.

Use what you find to make lists, ie.:

- *what is to cause joy or be rejoiced in?*

- *how are bond, service, suffering to be thought of?*

- *how is the mind or its thoughts to be controlled?*

• Expand •

Give the chapter a **title**.

What is Paul's **main point** in this chapter?

In each section of the chapter, take note of what we can **learn** about each subject:

v. 1-11 – the mind of Christ _____

v. 12-16 – obedience _____

v. 17-24 – example of Timothy _____

v. 25-30 - example of Epaphroditus _____

• Use •

- ❖ What specific instruction does Paul give to the Philippians?

- ❖ What example to follow from Paul's life are we given?

- ❖ What does this chapter tell us that Jesus should be to us?

Philippians Chapter 3

• Colour •

Colour in references to **Paul** in one colour,
and the references to the **Philippian ecclesia** in another colour.

• Look Deeper •

Look for the words listed on page 1.

Use what you find to make lists, ie.:

- *what is to cause joy or be rejoiced in?*

- *how are bond, service, suffering to be thought of?*

- *how is the mind or its thoughts to be controlled?*

• Expand •

Give the chapter a **title**.

What is Paul's **main point** in this chapter?

In each section of the chapter, take note of what we can **learn** about each subject:

v. 1-11 – confidence in the flesh _____

v. 12-21 – what to follow, what not to follow

• Use •

- ❖ What specific instruction does Paul give to the Philippians?

- ❖ What example to follow from Paul's life are we given?

- ❖ What does this chapter tell us that Jesus should be to us?

Philippians Chapter 4

• Colour •

Colour in references to **Paul** in one colour,
and the references to the **Philippian ecclesia** in another colour.

• Look Deeper •

Look for the words listed on page 1.

Use what you find to make lists, ie.:

- *what is to cause joy or be rejoiced in?*

- *how are bond, service, suffering to be thought of?*

- *how is the mind or its thoughts to be controlled?*

• Expand •

Give the chapter a **title**.

What is Paul's **main point** in this chapter?

In each section of the chapter, take note of what we can **learn** about each subject:

v. 1-9 – how to live our lives _____

v. 10-23 – lessons Paul has learned _____

• Use •

- ❖ What specific instruction does Paul give to the Philippians?

- ❖ What example to follow from Paul's life are we given?

- ❖ What does this chapter tell us that Jesus should be to us?
