

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 06 Mar..... Phil 1:1-11Link Up with Others
- 2) 13 Mar..... Phil 1:12-26 Lift Up the Gospel
- 3) 20 Mar..... Phil 1:27-2:11Live Up to the Gospel
- 4) 27 Mar..... Phil 2:12-30Light Up the World
- 5) 03 Apr..... Phil 3:1-21Look Up to Heaven
- 6) 10 AprPhil 4:1-23**Never Let Up**
- 7) 17 Apr Col 1:1-20Knowing the Truth
- 8) 24 Apr John 20:1-18 ..Believing the Truth [Easter Message]
- 9) 01 May Col 1:21-2:7Expressing the Truth
- 10) 08 May Col 2:8-23 Keeping the Truth
- 11) 15 May Col 3:1-17 Be Focused
- 12) 22 May Col 3:18-4:18Be Faithful
- 13) 29 May Philemon 1-25Be Forgiving

INTRODUCTION

- This chapter 4 is filled with classic passages, each requiring its own in depth study

Passage	Comments
Phil 4:1-3	<p>Church Squabbles – How Do We Fix Them?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euodia & Syntyche were at odds for some unknown reason, but it was significant enough to warrant Paul’s attention while in prison • Paul asked someone (Suzugos, Greek for ‘yoke-fellow’) at the church to step in and help them • BUT meddling with strife that doesn’t belong to you is like grabbing a dog by its ears...Prov 26:17 - It can be a losing situation for a good Samaritan • BUT we are called to peace, and church unity is a MUST, so a “wise” individual (such as an Elder) may need to step in and officiate 1Cor 6:1-7
4:4-5	<p>People Are Attracted to Christ By Our Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say Rejoice! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Paul uses REJOICE 29x in 6 of his epistles. 8x here in this book. Do you think he was serious? ♦ If we were to rejoice more, do you think people would be interested in hearing about our faith? • v5. Paul also says let your reasonableness (ESV), moderation (KJV), gentleness (NIV & NASB), graciousness (HCSB) be known to ALL MEN! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This is akin to letting your light shine in such a way that everyone sees your good works and then they glorify GodMat 5:16 ♦ BUT, do not do this for show, else you have no reward (How do we balance this?)Mat 6:1
4:6-7	<p>Be Anxious for Nothing – Instead, Pray</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even pray for the obvious Zech 10:1 • Numerous times in the Bible we are told not to be anxious (or to be fearful), whether someone has died (e.g., Lazarus, Jairus’ daughter), or in peril (e.g., disciples in a boat during a storm), or for any reason. In short, God is our deliverer • And cast all your concerns or worries on God, for He cares for you 1Peter 5:7
More on Anxiety, Worry and Fear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bad Anxiety/Worry/Fear</u> causes several problems <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ruins health..... Prov 3:7,8; 12:25;14:30; 17:22 2. Paralyzes activityJohn 20:19 3. Tarnishes testimony Luke 21:34 4. Accomplishes nothing Luke 12:25,26 5. Stagnates spiritual growthMark 4:19 • <u>Godly Worry/Fear</u> has positive side affects <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God is merciful to and answers the prayers of

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> those who fear Him.....Luke 1:50; John 9:31 2. Being concerned or worried about the things of the Lord is OK 1Cor 7:32 3. Church members should be concerned or worried about one another1Cor 12:25 • There are no positive examples of <u>ANXIETY</u> in either the Old or New Testaments
4:8-9	<p>The Christian Life is a Disciplined Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v8. We often have to begin our Christian walk by recalibrating our mind – Think happy thoughts • v9. Paul again stresses the need to obey & follow him (as he follows Christ) Phil 3:17; 1Cor 11:1 - The result: The God of peace will be with us
4:10-19	<p>Mission Giving Reaps Dividends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv10, 14, 15, 16, 18. The Philippians met Paul’s financial needs when they became known <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We should follow this example for needy saints • vv11-13. Paul learned to be content whether he had plenty of money & food or none. Can we? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - And Christ enabled and strengthened Paul to accomplish and endure all things. What about us? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Didn’t God promise to meet all needs if we seek His kingdom first? So why did Paul suffer needs? God also promised persecutions and we are told to rejoice and be glad cause our reward would be great in Heaven Mat 5:11,12 • v17. The Philippians are probably still reaping fruit to their Heavenly account. Likewise our fruit will follow us into eternity long after we die • v19. As we supply the needs of other worthy saints, we reap what we sow
4:20-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final salutation. Note in v22 there were saints in the “White House,” i.e., Caesar’s household <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One of the big benefits of Paul’s imprisonment

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:

- Let us be like the Philippians to peacefully resolve our squabbles, let our godly light shine to all, pray for everything, avoid anxiety, think happy thoughts, and be generous

NEXT WEEK: Colossians 1:1-20. We learn that Jesus Christ not only created all things, but He sustains all things, and He wants us to be fruitful in every good work

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



In the future, dear, you should avoid meddling with strife that doesn’t belong to you (Prov 26:17)