

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 05 Sep 2021Philippians 1:1-11.....Joy in Prayer
 2) 12 SepPhilippians 1:12-30.....Joy in Adversity
 3) 19 SepPhilippians 2:1-30.....Joy through Humility
 4) 26 SepPhilippians 3:1-21.....Joy in Knowing Jesus
 5) 03 OctPhilippians 4:1-9.....Joy through Peace
 6) 10 OctPhilippians 4:10-23.....Joy and Contentment
 7) 17 OctColossians 1:1-23.....The Gospel's Power
 8) 24 OctColossians 1:24-29 | 2:1-3.....The Gospel's Goal
 9) 31 OctColossians 2:4-15.....The Gospel's Forgiveness
 10) 07 NovColossians 2:16-23.....The Gospel's Freedom
 11) 14 NovColossians 3:1-17.....The Gospel Lived
 12) 21 NovColossians 3:18-25 | 4:1-6.....The Gospel and Relationships
 13) 28 NovPhilemon 1:1-25.....Restoration

INTRODUCTION

- Philippi was a city of destiny see [Acts 16](#)
 - Philippi became the 1st European city to be evangelized
 - Paul received a vision to avoid Asia & go to Macedonia instead
 - Paul witnesses to Lydia in Philippi. She was a businesswoman from Thyatira see Thyatira Side Note
 - Then Paul & Silas went to prison for casting out a demon
 - After that, Paul led his jailer and his family to Christ
- Paul wrote Philippians while imprisoned in Rome ~61 AD
- Paul had nothing bad to say to the Philippians. His letter was pure gratitude, thanksgiving, rejoicing, and encouragement

Passage	Comments
1:1-2	<p>Paul & Tim Salute the Saints, Elders & Deacons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timothy met Paul & Silas on their 2nd missionary trip to Macedonia (Acts 16); & Paul asked Timothy on his 3rd missionary trip to come to Macedonia to assist him (Acts 19:22), so the Philippians (of Macedonia) knew Timothy • Paul does not highlight his Apostleship as he had to with the Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, and Colossians. Philippians were low maintenance • Can we say we are low maintenance Christians? • What makes a high-maintenance Christian? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Never Happy? <input type="checkbox"/> Constant Complainer? <input type="checkbox"/> Trapped in sin? <input type="checkbox"/> Always Needy <input type="checkbox"/> Other Traits?
1:3-5	<p>Paul Thanked God Continually for the Philippians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul also continually prayed for the believers in Rome (Rom 1:9), in Ephesus (Eph 1:16), & in Colosse (Col 1:9) <p>Effective praying is a disciplined practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are to be devoted to prayer Rom 12:12 • Effective praying takes planning & time. How much time? • If we prayed like Paul, would we have more persecution or less? More maturity or less? More things or less? More blessings for friends or less? • Paul never prayed for larger bank accounts. His prayers were almost always for maturing in Christ.
1:6	<p>God will Accomplish What He Started</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be found holy & blameless (Eph 1:4) and be conformed to the image of Christ (Rom 8:9) • If it takes discipline and persecution – so be it!
1:7-8	<p>Paul has Feelings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul expressed “feelings” about the Philippians being true believers and he “longed” for them • Can we know we are saved? YES, 1John 5:13 • Can we really know others are saved? NO - we can only assume based on fruit (words & actions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples: The Apostles were duped by Judas; Paul was duped by Demas (Col 4:14, 2Tim 4:10); John knew of false brethren (1John 2:19)

Passage	Comments
1:9-11	<p>Pray Our Love Grows in Knowledge & Discernment for God, for His People, and for His Creation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wow! What more can we accomplish for God and for others by being smarter and wiser! • We are basically asking God to give us the ‘big picture’ and to play a bigger role in His will • Do we pray like this? For our family? For our friends? For one another? We should! • Praying like this accomplishes 3 major things: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are able to approve/confirm excellent things, such as ‘test the spirits’; ‘prove all things’; ‘prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God’ 2. We become “sincere and blameless” which positions us to be blessed and be more useful 3. We become filled with the fruit of His righteousness – ‘the fervent prayers of a righteous man accomplishes much’ James 5:16
The Prayer Loop	
Thyatira Side Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lydia presumably took the Gospel back to her hometown of Thyatira • Thyatira is known in Revelations as the church commended for their godly works, faith, love, & patience • BUT they tolerated “that woman Jezebel” Rev 3:18-29

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- God is going to accomplish what He started in us, so we should not make things difficult by being obstinate or high maintenance – we only hurt ourselves and we lose rewards
- If we devote ourselves to pray like Paul, watch out world!

NEXT WEEK: Phil 1:12-30. Paul’s imprisonment accomplished more for God’s Kingdom than being free.

ME, GOING INTO THE PRAYER ROOM



ME, COMING OUT OF THE PRAYER ROOM

