

Philippians

Chapter 1

1. "I'm Paul. Timothy and I are the servants of Jesus Christ. We are writing this letter to all of God's people who are in Philippi. We also are writing this letter to the chief leaders of the church and the special servants there who are among you. You're joined to Jesus Christ by God.
2. We ask God, who is our Father, and Jesus Christ to treat you kindly. And we ask God and Jesus Christ to help you be peaceful.
3. Whenever I think about you, I thank my God because you helped me tell the Good News to other people.
4. And whenever I think about you, I pray for you very happily.
5. I regularly pray very happily because you helped me do the work of the Good News. You helped me since the first day when you believed the Good News until today.
6. I know that God is working in you well. And I know that God will continue working in you well. God will continue working in you until he finishes working in you. That time will be the day of Jesus Christ. Alternate 1: That time will be the day when Jesus Christ comes to earth again.
7. I always love you. And it is good that I always love you. Sometimes I'm in prison and sometimes am defending the Good News. And sometimes I'm proving that the Good News is true. But God treats us kindly always.
8. God is able to show you that I want to be with you. I really want to be with you because Jesus Christ caused me to love you.
9. I pray that you will love God more. And I pray that you will love each other more. And I pray that you will know God more. And I pray that you will be wise so that you could recognize good things more.
10. Then you will choose the best things. And you will be completely good. God won't blame you on the day of Christ because you did bad things. Alternate 1: And when Christ comes to the earth again, God won't blame you because you did bad things.
11. And I pray that Jesus Christ will give many very good thoughts and many very good actions to you. Then you will praise God and honor him.
12. Brothers and sisters, I want you to know that all the bad things that people did to me caused more people to hear about the Good News.
13. All the Roman guards and all the other people who are here know that I'm in this prison because I serve Christ.

14. And many Christians are trusting in the Lord more completely because I'm in this prison. And they bravely are telling God's message to other people.

15. Some people tell God's message to other people because they want to have the things that other people have. And they want to cause people to disagree with each other. But other people tell people about Christ because they want to do the right thing.

16. These people tell God's message to other people because they love him and other people. They understand that I'm here to defend the Good News.

17. But those other people don't have good reasons for doing the things that they do. They tell people about Christ because they want to lead other people. And they want me to have trouble while I'm in prison.

18. But I don't care about these things. When people tell other people about Christ, I'm always happy. When people who have good reasons for doing the things that they do are telling people about Christ, I'm happy. And when people who have bad reasons for doing the things that they do are telling people about Christ, I also am happy.

19. And I will continue being happy because I know that God will answer your prayers. I know that the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ will help me. And I know that the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ will save me.
Alternate 1: And I know that the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ will cause the rulers to release me from this prison.

20. I hope that I won't be ashamed of something. And I greatly want to not be ashamed of something. But I want to be always brave. And I want my life to always honor Christ. If I live, I want to honor Christ. And if I die, I want to honor Christ.

21. I believe that I live because I know Christ. And if I die, I'll gain good things.

22. But if I continue living in my body, I'll be able to do good work. I don't know whether I should choose to live or I should choose to die.

23. It is difficult for me to decide. Sometimes I want to leave this earth. Then I'll be with Christ. If I were to stay on the earth here, I would be happy. But if I were to go to heaven to be with Christ, I would be happier.

24. But if I stay on this earth with you, I'll be able to help you very much.

25. I certainly know that I should stay here. So I know that I'll stay here. I'll be with you so that you could be able to do the next things that God wants you to do. And I will be with you so that you could be happy because you believe in God.

26. Then when I'm with you again, you will be very proud of Jesus Christ because Jesus Christ helped me be with you.

27. Try to live so that your lives could honor the Good News of Christ. Then I'll hear that you're united by God. And I will hear that you're working so that people could trust the Good News. If I come to you to visit you, or if I'm far from you, I'll hear these things.

28. Don't be afraid of the people who oppose you. And be brave. Those people will understand that you will be saved by God because you're not afraid of them. And they will understand that they will be destroyed by God.

29. God caused you to believe in Christ so that you could honor him. And God also causes you to suffer for Christ so that you could honor him.

30. When you suffer for Christ, you struggle like I struggle. You heard that I struggled for Christ. And I continue struggling for Christ.

Chapter 2

1. Title: Love each other. Think about the things that God has done for you. God has united you and has comforted you by loving you. And he has made the Holy Spirit be your friend. And God has treated you kindly and gently.

2. Do the things that I'll tell you about now because God has done all of these things for you. You will bless me by doing these things. Agree with each other and love each other. And think about the same things and have the same reasons that you do the things that you do.

3. Don't try to cause other people to think that you're more important than them. And don't be proud. But be humble and think that other people are better than you.

4. Don't care only about your life. But also care about other people's lives.

5. Think like Jesus Christ thought.

6. Jesus Christ completely was like God. But Jesus Christ didn't try to keep God's power and his rights.

7. Instead Jesus Christ left all the things that he had. Then he became like a slave and became a human.

8. Jesus Christ proved that he was very humble by completely obeying Father God. Jesus Christ even allowed people to kill him on a cross.

9. So God honored Jesus Christ greatly and gave Jesus Christ the name that people and angels honor the greatest.

10. God honored the name of Jesus Christ greatly so that all creatures that are in heaven, all creatures that are on the earth, and all creatures that are under there would bow to Jesus Christ. Alternate 1: God honored the name of Jesus Christ greatly so that all people who are in all places and all angels who are in all places would bow to Jesus Christ.

11. And all people and all angels will say that Jesus Christ is Lord. When these people and these angels say that Jesus Christ is Lord, they will honor Father God greatly.

12. Title: Believers should obey God to show other people how he wants them to live. I love you. You always obey God. Respect God now greatly. And be afraid to do bad things. Continue obeying God so that other people could know that he is saving you. When I was with you, you obeyed God. When I'm not with you, also obey God now.

13. God helps you want to do the things that please him. And he helps you do the things that please him.

14. When you do things, don't complain. And when you do things, don't argue with each other.

15. Then you will be very good. And no person will accuse you of doing bad things. You, who are God's children, will be very good while you live among people who always do evil things. While you're teaching those people how to be able to live forever, they will see that you're good. And they will see that you're good like people see bright lights shining in a dark sky.

16. When Christ returns to the earth, I'll be proud of you because you do all of these things. Your lives will show Christ that I successfully worked.

17. I might need to die because I worked for God. You gave your lives to God like a person gives an animal to God so that the priest could kill the animal. If the Roman rulers kill me, I'll be like the wine that the priest pours on an animal that a person gave to God. But I'll be happy and happy with you.

18. Be happy and be happy with me.

19. Title: Paul wants to send Timothy and Epaphroditus to the Christians who are in Philippi. I expect the Lord Jesus to allow me to send Timothy to you soon. When Timothy visits you, you will be happy. And when Timothy brings to me news that is about you, I'll also be happy.

20. No other person who is with me thinks about you like Timothy and I think about you. And no other person who is with me truly cares about you like Timothy and I care about you.

21. Other people care about only the things that they want. They don't care about the things that Jesus Christ wants.

22. Timothy showed you that he is a good person. Timothy worked for the Good News with me like a child serves his father.

23. So after I know about the things that will happen to me, I expect to send Timothy to you soon.

24. And I also expect the Lord to allow me to come to you soon.

25. You sent Epaphroditus to me so that he could bring a message to me. And when I needed a person to help me, you sent Epaphroditus to me to take care of me. Epaphroditus is in God's family and worked with me. And Epaphroditus struggled with me like a soldier struggles to fight an enemy. But I think that I should send Epaphroditus to you.

26. Epaphroditus really now wants to be with you. And he was worrying because you heard that he was sick.

27. It is true that Epaphroditus was very sick. And Epaphroditus almost died. But God was merciful to Epaphroditus and also merciful to me. If Epaphroditus had died, I would have been very sad. But God allowed Epaphroditus to live.

28. So I really want to send Epaphroditus to you. When Epaphroditus is with you, you will be very happy. And when Epaphroditus is with you, I'll worry about fewer things.

29. Welcome Epaphroditus, who also belongs to the Lord, happily. And honor Epaphroditus and other people who are like him.

30. While Epaphroditus was working for Christ, he almost died. So we should honor Epaphroditus because he worked for Christ. Epaphroditus helped me for you. When you were not able to help me because you were not with me, Epaphroditus helped me.

Chapter 3

1. Title: Christ is more important than all other things. I now want to write about other things. Christians, be very happy because you belong to the Lord. It is not difficult for me to write to you about the same things that earlier I wrote about to you. These things will help you be safe.

2. There are dangerous people who want to cut your bodies. They are Jews who want all Christians to obey all the laws of Moses. And they want each male Christian to be circumcised. The things that these people are doing are evil. Don't allow these people to influence you.

3. We are the people who truly are God's people. We worship God through his Holy Spirit. We don't trust in ourselves. We are proud of only Jesus Christ.

4. Even if I have reasons so that I could trust in myself, I won't trust in myself. Another person might think that he has reasons so that he could trust in himself. But I have more reasons so that I could trust in myself.

5. When I was eight days old, I was circumcised. I'm Israel's descendant and am in the tribe named Benjamin. I'm a true Hebrew. And my parents also were true Hebrews. I was a Pharisee and obeyed the law of Moses carefully.

6. I treated the church very badly because I had decided to defend my traditional religion. No person was able to accuse me of not obeying the law of Moses.

7. Before I became a Christian, I thought that these things were valuable. But I now think because of Christ that all of these things are not valuable.

8. It is extremely great that I know Jesus Christ, who is my Lord. And when I think about knowing Jesus, no other things seem to be valuable. I left all other things because of Christ. I think that all other things are garbage so that I completely could belong to Christ.

9. I want God to unite me with Christ. And I want God to think that I'm just. But God won't think that I'm just because I obey the law of Moses. I want to trust in Christ. Then God will think that I'm just because I trust in Christ.

10. I want to know Christ. And I want to know about God's great power that caused Christ to become alive again. And I want God to unite me with Christ by suffering with him. I want to never do bad things because Christ died for me. Alternate 1: I want to die like Christ died.

11. I want all of these things so that after I die, God would cause me to become alive again.

12. I'm not saying that I already succeeded. And I'm not saying that I already became perfect. But Christ chose me to know him. And Christ chose me to be like him. So I try very hard to know Christ. And I try very hard to be like Christ.

13. Friends, I have not become the person that Christ will make me become. But I always do this one thing that I'll tell you about now. I think like a person who is racing other people to a certain place thinks. I don't think about the things that are behind me. But I look at the place where I'll finish racing.

14. I run quickly toward the place where I'll finish running to win a prize. That prize is that because of all of the things that Jesus Christ did for me, I'll be in heaven with God.

15. You, who are perfect, should think about these things like I think about them. Alternate 1: You, who are like Christ, should think about these things like I think about them. Alternate 2: You, who have learned all the things that you should learn, should think about these things like I think about them. And if you don't think about these things correctly, God will help you think correctly.

16. But live now like Christ already showed you how to live.

17. Friends, do the things that I did when I was with you. And watch carefully the people who live like we lived.

18. Many people oppose the things that Christ did when he died on the cross. I told you about these people many times. And when I think about these people, I cry.

19. These people will be destroyed by God. They care the most about the food that they eat. And they are proud of things that they should be ashamed of things. They think about only things that are on the earth.

20. But our country is heaven. And we eagerly are waiting for Lord Jesus, who saves us, to come from heaven to us.

21. Christ is able to do all things. And he'll change our bodies, which are not great, so that they could become like his body, which is very great.

Chapter 4

1. Title: God wants you to do certain things. My brothers and my sisters, I love you and want to be with you. You bless me. And I'm proud of you because you follow the Lord. Continue following the Lord.

2. Euodia and Syntyche, agree with each other because you belong to the Lord.

3. I'll write one thing now to my friend who faithfully served God with me. Friend, help Euodia and Syntyche. Euodia and Syntyche struggled for the Good News with me, with Clement, and the other people who worked with me. God wrote all of these people's names in the Book of Life.

4. God's people, be always very happy because you belong to the Lord. I'll say this command again. Be always very happy.

5. Show all people that you're gentle. The Lord will return to the earth soon. Alternate 1: The Lord is close to you.

6. Don't worry about things. But pray to God and ask him to give you all the things that you need. And when you pray to God, always thank him.

7. God causes you to be peaceful because you belong to Jesus Christ. We don't understand how God causes us to be peaceful. But God will protect you from thinking about bad things by causing you to be peaceful. And he'll protect you from feeling bad by causing you to be peaceful.

8. So brothers and sisters, continue thinking about things that are true, things that God respects, things that are right, things that are pure, things that are beautiful, things that he admires, things that are extremely good, and things that he praises.

9. And do all the things that I taught you about. Do all the things that I told you to do. And do all the things that you saw me doing. Then God, who gives peace to you, will be with you.

10. I'm very happy because I belong to the Lord. And I thank the Lord because you cared about me again. Previously you also cared about me. But previously you were not able to show me that you cared about me.

11. I don't need you to send more things to me. I learned how to be happy with the things that I have. And I learned how to be happy with the things that happen to me.

12. When I need things, I know how to live. And when I have many things, I also know how to live. I know how to be always satisfied. When I have a lot of food, I know how to be satisfied. And when I'm hungry, I know how to be satisfied. When I have all the things that I need, I know how to be satisfied. And when I don't have things that I need, I know how to be satisfied.

13. I'm able to do all things through Christ, who causes me to be strong.

14. But when I had trouble, it was good that you helped me.

15. You know that after I told the Good News to you, I left Macedonia. And after I left Macedonia, you were the only Christians who helped me.

16. And when I was in Thessalonica, you sent to me two times the things that I needed.

17. I don't want you to give more things to me. But after you give things to me, I want you to receive the good things that God will give to you.

18. I have all the things that I need. Actually I don't need all the things that I have. Epaphroditus brought to me the things that you sent to me. So I have now all the things that I need. The things that you gave to me are like a sacrifice that you gave to God. God accepts this sacrifice that you gave to him. And this sacrifice pleases God.

19. My God is very rich and will give you all the things that you need. He'll give these things to you through Jesus Christ.

20. I praise our God, who is our Father, greatly.

21. Title: Paul and the other people who are with him greet the Christians who are in Philippi. Greet all God's people who belong to Jesus Christ. And all of the Christians who are with me greet you.

22. All of God's people who are here greet you. And God's people who work in the emperor's house really want to greet you.

23. I pray that the Lord Jesus Christ will treat you kindly.”