

# A Closer Look - 1

## *A Personal Bible Study in Philippians 1:1 – 2:4*

*This is a Biblical investigation into the Letter to the Philippians. At the end of this study, we will have a better understanding of what Paul wanted to share with these people and how he communicated to them.*

*For this study let's name the theme of the whole letter: **Live Your Faith the Right Way: Serve the Lord***

*Let's divide the letter into these sections:*

<b>Always Be Ready to Serve the Lord</b>	<b>(1:1-2:4)</b>
<b>Watch the Way Others Serve the Lord</b>	<b>(2:5-30)</b>
<b>Go Out and Serve the Lord</b>	<b>(3:1-4:23)</b>

*This is totally your study. Nobody will be instructing you and nobody will be grading you. It will just be you, your Bible, these lessons, your own paper, and of course, the Holy Spirit guiding and teaching you.*

### **Exercise 1**

Check off box when exercise is completed

Read through the entire letter to the Philippians in one sitting. In other words, sit down and read the whole letter without stopping. Use any version of the Bible you like. There is nothing to write for this exercise. Just read.

### **Exercise 2**

Check off box when exercise is completed

Let's now focus in on section 1 of the letter (1:1-2:4).

What is the title we are using for this section? (See section titles above)

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How should we get ready to serve the Lord? Write below.

1:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_

1:3-11 \_\_\_\_\_

1:12-18 \_\_\_\_\_

1:19-26 \_\_\_\_\_

1:27-30 \_\_\_\_\_

2:1-4 \_\_\_\_\_

*Did you notice that in the previous section, that some of the ways to get ready to serve or be used by the Lord are: keep in touch with people (1:1-2), pray & encourage others (1:3-11), accept hard times that may come (1:12-18), focus on the growth of others (1:19-26), behaved yourself as to your daily conduct (1:27-30), don't always insist on having your own way (2:1-4). You probably discovered similar ways to keep your life in tune for being a good servant.*

### **Exercise 3**

Check off box when exercise is completed

Choose three of your responses on how to get ready to serve the Lord from exercise 2. **Pick one** that you seem to be doing fairly well with. **Pick two** that you are really struggling with. Explain on the lines below:

Selection #1 (Doing fairly well)

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Selection #2 (Struggling)

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Selection #3 (Struggling)

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*Hopefully, this brief study has caused you to look at your life and ask God to help you make changes. If you are interested in more studies in this series, ask your chaplain.*