

A Closer Look - 3

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: **Always Be Ready to Serve the Lord** **(1:1-2:4)***

Watch the Way Others Serve the Lord** **(2:5-30)

Go Out and Serve the Lord** **(3:1-4:23)

Well, so far we have looked at "How to Get Ready to Serve the Lord" in Philippians 1:1-11: Keep in touch with people (1:1-2) and Pray & Encourage Others (1:3-11).

Exercise 7

Check off box when exercise is completed

Let's move on to the third section: Accept Hard Times as they Come (1:12-18).

What kinds of things happened to Paul?

1:13-14 _____

1:15 _____

1:16 _____

How can hard times get you ready to serve the Lord? What good things happened because of Paul's hard times?

1:12 _____

1:13 _____

1:17 _____

1:18 _____

Could your hard times have any good in them? Explain.

Exercise 8

Check off box when exercise is completed

Look at some of the words in this section (1:12-18): "envy & strife", "contention", "defence", "pretence". Is it possible that some of these people could be Christians or religious and be preaching against Paul's teachings? Could they be trying to hurt him? What do you see here?

How do you and I handle people who are hassling us even in the Christian group?

Exercise 9

Check off box when exercise is completed

In the next section (1:19-26), Paul wants them to grow in their faith. However, he shared that he wanted to grow in his faith too. What did he share?

1:20 _____

1:21 _____

1:22 _____

1:23-24 _____

1:25-26 _____

Continuing to want to grow ourselves, and helping others grow in their Christian walk "gets us ready to serve the Lord". How are you doing?

Hopefully, there has been something useful in this lesson that really excites you. If you want some more, see your chaplain.