

# A Closer Look - 7

## *A Personal Bible Study in Philippians 3:1-4:23)*

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

How has Paul explained how to "Live our Faith the Right Way – Serve the Lord" so far? It's incredible!!!

### **Keep yourself active & ready by:**

(1:1-2) Keeping in touch with people	(1:19-26) Focus on Growth of Others
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(1:3-11) Pray & Encourage Others	(1:27-30) Behave Yourself
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(1:12-18) Accept Hard Times	(2:1-4) Don't insist on your own way
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### **Watch how other Christians do it:**

(2:5-11) Christ	(2:19-24) Timothy	(2:25-30) Epaphroditus
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(2:12-18) Evaluate ourselves – What should we do?

### **Exercise 19**

Check off box when exercise is completed

How has this study in Philippians so far affected your personal life?

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**Exercise 20**

Check off box when exercise is completed

Ok, now Paul tells the Philippians & us to **GET OUT THERE AND SERVE.**

The neat thing is that while you are getting ready to serve the Lord, you are already serving the Lord as your personal growth is in progress. Paul teaches that way.

**Exercise 21**

Check off box when exercise is completed

**What did Paul share about his own life regarding:**

Don't rely on your personal background & abilities (3:1-6)?

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Only Jesus can accomplish His plan using our lives (3:7-10)?

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Keeping attentive to our own personal growth & maturity (3:11-16)?

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Pursuing the right rewards in life (3:17-21)?

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If we are not vulnerable in our teaching, no one will listen, believe us, or change. The teaching must be real (successes & failures). How are you doing with all this?

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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.*