

# A Closer Look - 8

## *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>
<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.*

As Paul reminded us, while we are living our life & serving God, we must:

**Not rely** on our own abilities & background (3:1-6)

**Realize only** Jesus can accomplish His plan for our lives (3:7-10)

**Focus on** your own growth & maturity all along the way (3:11-16)

**Pursue** the goals & rewards that please God & benefit us (3:17-21)

### **Exercise 21**

Check off box when exercise is completed

What are you relying on? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How important is Jesus in your life? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are you focusing on? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are you pursuing? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The answers to these questions will affect how we serve God & other people.

**Exercise 22**

Check off box when exercise is completed

What problem among Christian people will we constantly face (4:1-3)?

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What kind of a Christian life attracts people (4:4-9)?

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What personal struggle will most of us deal with our whole lives (4:10-13)?

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Do you look around for people in need & try to help somehow (4:14-19)? What did Paul say about it?

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Did you notice that Paul ended the letter the same way he started it (4:20-23)? Explain.

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This serving the Lord is exhausting. How can we do it?

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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.*