



Joy in the Journey: A Study of Philippians

Whole-Hearted Living in the Body of Christ: Friend, Servant, Soldier

Philippians 4:18, 2:25-30

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Snapshot:

- 1) Philippians is known as one of the four prison epistles (Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon)
- 2) Paul is clear that there were many that were a _____ to his ministry efforts.
(1 Timothy 1:19-20, 2 Timothy 2:14)
Also, Paul, in his letters mentions those who were a great _____.
In Romans, as an example, he mentions 35 specific names.
- 3) Epaphroditus was both a Greek and Gentile and his name meant " _____ or _____."
- 4) The church in Philippi (likely several house churches) were in modern day Europe and Paul, as most scholars agree, was writing this to them from Rome under house arrest. This church, out of necessity, provided support to Paul.
- 5) Paul authored 13 letters (9 addressed to churches and 4 addressed to individuals). In all his writings he mentions the "mind" 23 times... 10 of which are in the Book of Philippians. Also, the word "joy" is found 16 times in 4 chapters.

I. Whole-Hearted Living

- 1) Walk as a _____ (v. 25)
 - a. Great Commandment- Matt. 22: 37-39
 - i. *And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR _____."*
This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR _____ AS YOURSELF.'
 - b. We are duly _____ to love one another (1 John 4:11-21)
 - c. Proverbs 17:17 Fools perish for a lack of _____ or _____
_____ friends. (See also Proverbs 18:24)
 - d. Great friendships are intentionally deliberate and _____ over _____.
- 2) Work as a _____ (v. 25)
 - a. Epaphroditus was both a _____ and a _____.
 - i. Proverbs 27:9; James 2:18
 - b. Ephesians 2:10

- i. *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good _____, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*
- c. Am I spending my resources and energy for building the _____ of God or building my own Kingdom?
- i. Do we "work" for the Lord or for the _____ of man?
- d. You cannot be a servant without _____ (availability)
 (Q) Are you available to be used by Jesus Christ?
- 3) Warfare as a _____ (v. 25)
- a. "Fellow Soldier" speaks of a man who is "an associate in the _____ of the Christian Life."
- i. They were partners in a _____.
- b. Ephesians 6:12
- i. *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this _____, against the _____ of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

II. **Brave Living**

- 1) In His Service
- a. Bravery is not the absence of _____, it is overcoming fear as an _____.
- b. Nothing was more important to him than doing God's _____.
- 2) In His Sacrifice
- a. Jim Eliot Quote- "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."
- b. Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 6:19-21, Romans 8:18, 2 Corinthians 4:17

Discussion Questions:

- Like Epaphroditus to Paul, who are the spiritual partners in your life? Who would answer that question with your name?
- Do you know the spiritual battles that your close friends are facing? And do you intercede for them regularly through prayer? Do they know what you need prayer around?
- What are practical ways you are increasing your affections for Jesus Christ and the church? And how are you making yourself available to be a friend, servant and soldier to the body of Christ?