

Philippians 1:12-14
Gospel Driven Vision
Rootwork

1. **(Everyday)** Before you begin your study time - spend time in prayer! Go through your “yesterday” and ask the Lord to reveal your heart! Prepare your heart and surrender your will to the Spirit of God! Allow Him to have full access by not withholding anything He wants to do in and then do through you!! Make a conscious effort to bow your will and your obedience to the Lord before you even dive in! This prepares your heart to hear and to heed everything He speaks to you!

2. **(Everyday)** Then spend time in adoration and worship after you have cleansed your heart and before you dive into the scriptures!! Proclaiming who God is and adoring Him lifts our eyes up and keeps our focus on what really matters...putting God in His rightful place and putting us in ours! Remember, the enemy is going to try to keep you from being in the Word, he hates when we worship our God- Worship breaks his bondages over believers, so submit to God, resist him and he will flee!!

3. If you were at the “Digging Deeper Workshop” and you would like to structure these scriptures, Copy and paste Philippians 1 into a word/ pages document or write it out verse by verse (if you have not done already), following the structuring handouts you received! If you were not there and want to watch it, search “Digging Deeper” on our website or app and watch it for tools to help you in your study time!

4. **(Everyday)** After you finish your Rootwork every day, be sure to spend time in prayer (ACTS) going through what you have learned and received from the Word of God! This is also in your “Digging Deeper” handout!
5. Take some time reviewing your notes from the last section we covered a couple of weeks ago. What do you learn about Paul from this study so far? What do you see when looking at his priorities?
6. Read Philippians 1:1-18 to get the full context.
7. Read Philippians 1:12-14 and mark any key words that are repeated. Then look up any words you want further insight on in your Blue Letter Bible app. (If you need help with this please let me know)
8. Why do you think Paul wrote verses 12-14 and specifically included them in this letter?
9. What did Paul want the church of Philippi to know in verse 12?
10. Look at verse 12, what do you see in this first verse about circumstances? What is Paul talking about when he refers to his circumstances? Do a deep dive on his missionary journeys and find out as many details as you can from Paul’s conversion to this point where he is in chains. List his circumstances! What has he been through?
11. Is Paul’s focus on his circumstances here? What is his primary focus?
12. Is this your primary focus? Is this your motivation in all you do? If not, what is?

13. Paul dealt with a lot of hate from all different aspects- take another look at verse 15-18 and write out the two different types of people here and what as their primary motivations?
14. How does Paul respond concerning them?
15. How do you personally respond when you are hated?
16. How do you respond when you are envied and people want to destroy what you have been called to do? Have you ever been in this situation? If so, think back on your thoughts and motives, what was your response?
17. Go back through your notes or your memory, what kind of mind is necessary so that circumstances do not steal your joy?
18. Take a minute and write out what your circumstances are right now, what are you going through that brings you the most pain, possible resentment or bitterness? Or what has happened in your life that you can look back on and think, “if this did not happen..” or “ my life did not turn out like I planned or wanted” what are those circumstances?
19. See, what could easily steal Paul’s joy has actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel...they were used for the glory of God and for the reason God put Paul on this earth! Now think of what you answered in the previous question. What if that very situation was the platform, or the means in which God could be made known in your life? The very circumstance that the gospel can go out?

20. This might very well be your sling and stone like David, or your ark like Noah, your “blindness” to the blind man...or your chains like Paul..what if the very thing you are despising and praying will go away is the very thing that God wants to use as your platform to further the gospel and make Him known! Take some time to think about how this might transform your perspective and your actions so that you can be used in the hands of your Master! (Please do not rush this, you may have to take time in just surrendering this situation so that the resentment that has built up is broken and purpose can take root in this area)
21. Read verse 13, what was the praetorian guard? Why was this significant?
22. Read verses 13-14 together and take note of how many people were influenced by Paul’s chains? List what he says!
23. How do think his imprisonment furthered the gospel?
24. Describe how God has used someone’s courageous testimony or example in your own life to spur you on to have greater boldness for Christ?
25. Every moment that Paul was chained to a guard, he had a choice to make. Either let the Lord use him or focus on the difficulty of his circumstances! What would you honestly do? Where would your focus be?
26. Take a minute to look at your heart, if you could identify one area or one thing that gets in the way of God being able to use you, what is it? What is the Lord nudging you to do about it?
27. Read verse 14 again, why do you think they have far more courage to speak the Word of God because of Paul’s imprisonment?

28. This got rid of their excuses! They had no more excuses! Have you personally been living behind your excuses in order to stay safe and comfortable? If so, how?
29. This gets rid of excuses not just for sharing the hope you have in Christ, but it gets rid of excuses for not truly living as a bondservant, totally wholeheartedly submitted to the Lord in obedience! What are your excuses? Take some time to surrender them before the Lord now!
30. We discussed that the challenges we face, and the situations that we call “trials” are custom designed conditions that produce three things:
- Growth in us personally
 - Salvation for unbelievers
 - Encouragement for other believers to trust the Lord
31. Think back over your life, has your difficult circumstances ever produced these three things? If so, how? If not, why not?
32. If you are in a situation right now where you feel like you are being bound and captive, God wants to use that situation for His glory, to bring others to Him, to grow you and encourage those who are watching to trust the Lord! This starts in the tiny details of obedience. The things we consider little or insignificant but actually have a huge impact on our relationship with the Lord! It is in the small things that we get to experience the beauty of God’s presence as He blesses obedience and frees us from sin! What “small” thing is the Spirit of God revealing to you that needs to be walked out in obedience?

33. See, this takes vertical vision, one ambition and one motivation- that is Christ and Him crucified!! It certainly will not be comfortable, yes it takes vulnerability, authenticity and boldness to be truly exposed before God as a willing vessel. Oh, but on the other side of this is a peace that surpasses understanding and the adventure of a lifetime of walking in the beautiful perfect will of the Lord!! This is what every believer wants but not every believer experiences because of their unwillingness to be faithful in the small things! So whatever it is the Lord is calling you to be obedient in, know it is so very worth it!

“He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.”

Luke 16:10