

Philippians 1:3-8
The Perspective Of a Devoted Mind
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 did you learn about the grace that you have been given?
6. Read Philippians 1:3-8 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)
7. Read Philippians 1:1-8 together in context. What does this tell you about the heart Paul has for this church?
8. Why do you think he has this kind of heart for this church?
9. We discussed in Bible study how chapter one shows us the right perspective on how to have a devoted mind and not let circumstances steal our joy! Is this something you personally need to grow in?
10. **Devoted-** The biblical concept of being devoted encompasses both the idea of being set apart for God and the active, ongoing commitment to live in accordance with His will. A Devoted mind is set, dedicated and resolved to serve their master....one set on following and serving Christ without pause and without excuse! Which part of this definition is the most convicting? Why?
11. Having a devoted mind is not something that we just get one day and never have to work on again..it is something that will need maintenance

consistently. Look at verse 3 and what is the first perspective needed for a devoted mind?

12. What does this verse tell you about the relationship Paul had with God?
13. Look up “thankfulness” and write all that you find from your interlinear concordance from you Blue Letter Bible app.
14. Take a minute and think about your prayer life. How much time do you spend thanking God for everything? All the little things, things that can often go unnoticed? How truly thankful are you?
15. When you look at a situation that seems bleak, do you focus on the things that are going wrong, or are you thankful for the opportunity to grow?
16. Sometimes we need to stop and think about how much we allow circumstances to steal our joy. To steal the deep satisfaction that only Christ gives us! We can have joy in the midst of painful grief and heartache! When my mom died it was the most painful grief that I had gone through especially because it was so sudden and unexpected. One minute she was doing laundry and the next she was in eternity. My heart aches because I miss her but I know that God has given me so much of an ability to rejoice in her new eternal state, and then to use that in ministry! This world brings so much pain, but the JOY of the Lord is forever!! Where is your focus? What is your perspective?
17. Read verse 3 again, what does this perspective show us in this verse?
18. We discussed how important it is to pray for others, is this something you struggle with? If so, Why do you think that is?

19. We also discussed that we can not judge what God is doing based on our circumstances! Write out an example of when you judged what God was doing based on your circumstance, what happened? Explain why is this a dangerous mind frame?
20. Read verse 4, what is the second perspective in order to have a devoted mind and not let circumstances steal your joy?
21. What do you learn from this verse?
22. Look up the word “joy” and record what you find. Do you pray for other people like this? Does this challenge you personally to pray more and to pray with joy for others?
23. Read verse 5, what was the third perspective needed for a devoted mind?
24. Look up the word “Participation” and write out it’s definition.
25. Now read verse 5 again and with the context of the definition of participation. Notice how Paul defined what they all participated in..this revealed their primary motivation. Their number one ambition. We see this as we continue on in the text. What is true gospel centered fellowship? What does that look like?
26. Have you personally experienced true gospel centered fellowship personally? Explain.

27. Read Romans 15:26, and look up the word, “contribution”. What do you find?
28. Contribution and participation are both active and involved. They are not spectators. There is one common purpose and one common goal. Fellowship is working, sharing and serving together to make sure that goal is achieved! Read 1 Cor. 3:8-9, what are we all called to do?
29. Fellowship in a local body is essential to the call of God on all our lives! If you think you are disconnected, isolated yourself, that you are not fitting in or joining up..let me ask you, are you participating in the furtherance of the gospel? Are you reaching out and joining in the ministry of the church? Have you been discipled? Are you staying long enough after services to join arms with other believers and participating in the work?
30. If the answer to the previous questions were “no” then I want to both lovingly and strongly suggest that it is time to roll up your sleeves and get in the trenches with us! There is so much work to do for the furtherance of the gospel of Jesus Christ and you are apart of that! We have such an amazing body of believers that know what koinonia fellowship is all about by keeping their eyes so fixed on the Lord and serving Him! Get in there and participate!!
31. Read verse 6, what is the fourth perspective Paul had in order to have a devoted mind no matter the circumstances?
32. How does this bring you comfort in your walk with the Lord? And why?
33. Look up the words, “confident”, “good”, and “perfect” in your Blue Letter Bible app. What do you find?

34. Who began the work in you?
35. Who will perfect it?
36. How long?
37. What are you required to do?
38. Read Hebrews 12:2 and record what it says!
39. Think back over Paul's journey to Philippi, who brought him there? Who opened the hearts of the people there? Who started the church?
40. The same is true for us, what work did God start in you? How did He start it? What were the circumstances?
41. Notice how it says "IN you"! this is God's desire, He is always about our hearts and who we are becoming! He is way more concerned about your heart then He is about your circumstances! Read Ephesians 2:10 and record it on a sticky note so you can see it every single day as a reminder!! Praise and thank God for what He has done in you!

42. Read verse 6 again, look at the way this verse is an outline of our salvation experience from the moment we say “I do” to Christ to the moment we step into eternity!

- Justification- “He who began a good work in you...”
- Sanctification- “Will perfect it..”
- Glorification - “Until the day of Christ Jesus.”

43. Write out the definition of justification, what does it mean?

44. The moment you place your faith in Christ, God legally declares you right with Him. So now He is your Father, not your judge! You are justified because God’s justice was satisfied in Christ!! Look up the verses below on justification and record what you learn. If you have time find as many verses on justification as you can and record what insight you glean from them.

- Romans 4:25
- Romans 5:1-9
- Galatians 2:16, 3:11-14
- Romans 3:23-24
- 2 Corinthians 5:21

45. When you place your faith in Christ you are justified and you are being sanctified. Look up the definition of sanctification. Write out what it means!

46. Look up the verses below on sanctification and the battle that we all face within us! Record what you learn. If you have time, find as many verses on sanctification as you can and record what insight you glean from them.

- 2 Cor. 3:18
- 1 Cor. 6:11
- James 4:1
- Romans 6:19
- Galatians 5:17
- John 17:17
- Philippians 2:12-13
- 1 Thess. 5:23

47. We are all a work in progress. Think back and write out the key things that you can remember from your justification to right now as you go through sanctification. How has the Lord sanctified you personally? What situations did He use? What has it produced?

48. Spend time thanking and praising God for what He has done and is doing in you! Sanctification is a gift and a blessing that God gives us as His children!

49. Look up and define glorification and write it out.

50. Look up the verses below on glorification and record what you learn. If you have time, find as many verses on glorification as you can, and record what insight you glean from them.

- Romans 8:16-20, 29-30
- Colossians 3:4
- Philippians 3:20-21
- 2 Cor. 3:18
- 1 John 3:2
- 1 Cor. 15:35-58

51. You are justified, you are being sanctified and you will be glorified! Think about what a glorious day it will be when we are all going to be glorified! Spend time thanking and praising God for the hope we have in Christ, for the eternal blessing that awaits us in glory!!

52. Read verses 7 and 8, what do you see about Paul here?

53. How does he encompass John 13:35?

54. Look up every word in verse 7 in your Blue Letter Bible app and record what they mean.

55. Compare “partakers” with the word “partnership” from verse 3, what do you see?

56. Read 1 Peter 3:15 and compare to verse 7. What is Paul saying here?

57. Over and over we are seeing Paul's primary motivation! What is it?
58. What is your primary motivation? What is your main goal? Your number one ambition?
59. Does your life reflect your primary motivation? If so, how? If not, why not? Do not rush this question..this is how the Lord, in His grace sanctifies you! Allow Him to cleanse you and show you areas of growth so you can continue to be set apart for His glory and purposes!!
60. Read verse 8 again, what is the fifth perspective Paul had to have a devoted mind?
61. What kind of affection did Christ have?
62. Do you love others like this?
63. Do you speak to others this way?
64. When you think of your sisters in Christ, do you love them to the Lord, pray for them, want them to finish well? Or are you trying to have others define your worth and validate you? Are you focused on their growth and what God is doing in their life? Or are you more focused on how they think of you or treat you? This is a very common problem among women, in and outside of Christianity! We need to be so careful our perspective is outward focused and not inward focused!

65. This kind of love requires a devoted mind, one that is fixed on the work of the Lord! Paul has given us 5 perspectives here to have a devoted mind and not to let circumstances steal our joy. Review each one and take note of the ones that challenge you and stretch you. Which perspectives need to change in your life?

1. Thankfulness to God
2. Praying with Joy
3. Never lose sight of the main thin- the gospel
4. Being confident that God always finishes what He starts
5. Selflessly longing for others spiritually