



REJOICE ALWAYS

A STUDY IN PHILIPPIANS

By Scott Kercheville

Name: _____

Schedule of Classes; Class Locations

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Please read the given text and use the given sheet to prepare before class.

1. *Get Perspective in Persecution (Philippians 1)*
2. *Think and Serve Like the Savior (Philippians 2)*
3. *Confidence in Christ; Focus on the Future (Philippians 3)*
4. *Worry, Worry, Worry Joy, Joy, Joy (Philippians 4)*

Get Perspective in Persecution (Philippians 1)

For best results, please read Philippians 1 and answer the questions below before class.

1. (1:3-11) What can you learn from this view into Paul's relationship with the Philippians during his suffering for the gospel?
2. (1:12-18) What can you learn from Paul's perspective on his imprisonment? In what ways can you imitate his thinking in your own life?
3. (1:19-20) Why does Paul see that either death or life will turn out for his deliverance? How can you apply this thinking to your current or future difficulties and/or uncertainties?
4. (1:21-26) Why is it "Christ" for Paul to live? Why is it gain for Paul to die?
5. (1:21-26) How can Paul's perspective (see #4) affect your approach to living? Dying?
6. (1:27-30) Note the marginal reading of the ESV for vs. 27, "*Only behave as citizens worthy of the gospel...*" According to this paragraph, how can we behave as citizens worthy of the gospel?

Think and Serve Like the Savior (Philippians 2)

For best results, please read Philippians 2 and answer the questions below before class.

1. (2:1-2) What should we do if we have experienced encouragement, comfort, and fellowship in Christ? When is this the most difficult? Why should these experiences motivate you?
2. (2:3-4) How can we be united in love and in the mind? How can you better apply this as a member of the body of Christ at Alston Road? Among your family and friends?
3. (2:5-11) In what ways did Christ count others more significant than himself? What resulted from this? How does this teach you about what it means to count others as more significant?
4. (2:12-18) How did the Philippians need to behave in Paul's absence? What possibility could make this difficult (vs. 17)? What could motivate them through this difficulty (vs. 15-16)?
5. (2:19-24) How did Timothy embody the charge to "do nothing from selfish ambition"? What did Timothy have to sacrifice to do this? How can you imitate Timothy in your life?
6. (2:25-30) How did Epaphroditus embody the charge to look "also to the interests of others"? Why would he do this? How can you imitate Epaphroditus in your life?

Confidence in Christ; Focus on the Future (Philippians 3)

For best results, please read Philippians 3 and answer the questions below before class.

1. (3:1-6) Describe who Paul tells the Philippians to look out for. What does it mean to put confidence in the flesh? What reasons could Paul have for putting confidence in the flesh?
2. (3:7-11) How does Paul describe the “gains” that could cause him to rely on the flesh? Why does he consider them in this light?
3. (3:7-11) What “gains” are you tempted to rely on that could cause you to not have “*the righteousness from God that depends on faith*”?
4. (3:7-11) What “gains” are you tempted to love/value that could distract you from “*knowing Christ*”/“*his sufferings*” and from attaining “*the resurrection from the dead*”?
5. (3:8) What can you focus on to help you count these gains as rubbish?
6. (3:12-16) How can you imitate Paul and think more maturely about obtaining the resurrection?
7. (3:17-19) How are enemies of the cross in opposition to the mindset Paul has been discussing?
8. (3:19-4:1) What all does it mean to be a citizen of heaven? What citizenship might the Philippians be tempted overvalue? You?

Worry, Worry, Worry Joy, Joy, Joy (Philippians 4)

For best results, please read Philippians 4 and answer the questions below before class.

1. (4:1-3) What had happened and what can you learn from Paul's words regarding this situation?

2. (4:4-7) According to this text, how can you "not be anxious about anything"? Explain how the peace of God can guard your heart.

3. (4:8-9) What should you think on and practice so the "God of peace" will be with you? What are you often tempted to set your mind on and how does this make you feel?

4. (4:10-13) What had Paul learned to do? Considering both this text and all of Philippians, what enables Paul (and what can enable you) to have this?

5. (4:14-18) Why is Paul thankful for the Philippians partnership with him? How can this affect the way you think about generosity for the gospel, those in need, etc.?

6. (4:19-20) How will God respond to the Philippians' offering/sacrifice? How can this help you with overcome anxiety when you consider sacrificing for the gospel, those in need, etc.?

7. (4:21-23) What about these greetings and the result of Paul's circumstances can motivate you to rejoice and be content in all circumstances? What opportunities similar to Paul's could you have?