

Philippians – Finding Joy in All Circumstances

Week 1 – Key verse – *I thank my God every time I remember you. Philippians 1:3*

You will be given a working copy of the book of Philippians. This is a place for you to make notes as we study this wonderful book together. Once you have made all of your notes and colored the pages. You can then transfer whatever notes you want to your Bible. We have written and are writing this study so you can do as much or as little homework as you desire. If you want to skip all of the homework and just come to the weekly classes, that is wonderful. Anytime you are spending in God's word is time well spent.

Although we refer to this as the book of Philippians, this is actually a letter, an "epistle".

Start by reading the entire letter of Philippians. You can do this in one sitting or in little spurts, but read it all. Take it all in. Then answer these questions.

1. What are your circumstances right now? Are you in a good place or a bad place? Are you in your own prison?
2. Look at Philippians 1:1. From just this verse who would you say is the author or authors?
3. From reading the remainder of the letter of Philippians did you change your answer as to who the author is? Why or why not?
4. From Philippians 1:1 who are the recipients of the letter of Philippians?
5. From Philippians 1:7 where is the author writing the book of Philippians?
6. From Philippians 4:16 what part had the recipients played in the author's ministry?

Key words or phrases are words that are repeated throughout a book. In the book of Philippians, **rejoice** (joy), **mind** (think), and **Christ** (Jesus) are repeated throughout this letter and therefore, considered keywords. They have each been marked in a unique way on the accompanying working copy of Philippians.

- rejoice
- mind
- Christ

7. From Philippians 2:1-2, you will see all three of these keywords used. What is the author's hope?
8. Having looked at the book as a whole, what would you say is the them of this letter?