

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Philippians Bible Study

Philippians 1:1- 8 Lesson #1

**INSTRUCTIONS: Read the entire section of Scripture in Philippians before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word.
Most Scriptures are from the New King James Version.

1-2 **Paul and Timothy**, servants of Jesus Christ, to **all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi**, with the bishops and deacons: grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

● **I Timothy 1:1-2** “Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope, to _____, my true _____ in the _____: grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.”

● **II Corinthians 1:1-2** “Paul, an _____ of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and _____ our _____, to the _____ of God which is at Corinth, with all the _____ who are in Achaia: _____ to you and _____ from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Definition: “TIMOTHY, my true SON in the FAITH” – Paul had led Timothy to faith in Jesus Christ, so that is why Paul refers to him as his “son in the faith”. He was not Paul’s son by blood, but by faith in Christ. Paul helped Timothy to come to Christ and be born again, so he feels like **his spiritual father** and calls him his “son” in that sense, but Timothy is still his BROTHER in Christ, as well.. In this letter to the Philippians, **Timothy is traveling with Paul**, since Paul says “and Timothy” when beginning his letter, such as to the Colossian church.

● **Colossians 1:1-2** “_____, an _____ of Jesus Christ by the will of God, _____ our _____. To the _____ and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse: grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Definition: “All the SAINTS in Christ Jesus who are in PHILIPPI” – A “saint” means “one who is SET APART for God” (“Saints” - also translated “Holy ones”). God wants us to be **SET APART for His use, and SEPARATED from sin**. When Paul writes “who are in PHILIPPI” he means the church that is in the city of Philippi, which is in Macedonia, in Europe. The city of Philippi was named after Philip of Macedonia, the father of Alexander the Great. God sent Paul to Macedonia by giving him a vision, and one of Paul’s first converts was a woman named Lydia.

● **Acts 16:9-15** “And a _____ appeared to _____ in the night. A man of _____ stood and pleaded with him, saying, ‘_____ over to _____ and help us.’ Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to _____ to _____, concluding that the Lord had _____ us to _____ the _____ to them. Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, and from there to _____, which is the foremost city of _____, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days. And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where _____ was customarily made; and we sat down and _____ to the _____ who met there. Now a certain _____ named _____ heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who _____ God. The _____ opened her _____ to heed the things _____ by _____. And when _____ and her household were

_____, she begged us, saying, 'If you have judged _____ to be _____ to the _____, come to my house and stay.' And she constrained us."

3-5 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, **ALWAYS in every PRAYER of mine making REQUEST for you with all joy, for your FELLOWSHIP in the GOSPEL** from the first day until now.

• **Colossians 1:9-10** "For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do _____ to _____ for _____ and to _____ that you may be _____ with the _____ of His _____ in all _____ and spiritual _____; that you may have a walk _____ of the _____, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every _____ and increasing in the _____ of _____"

• **Ephesians 3:14-19** "For this _____, I _____ my _____ to the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named. That He would grant _____, according to the riches of His glory, to be _____ with _____ through His _____ in the inner man, that _____ may _____ in your _____ through _____, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to _____ with all the _____ what is the width and length and depth and height — to _____ the _____ of _____ which passes knowledge; that you may be _____ with all the fullness of _____."

• **Ephesians 1:15-18** "Wherefore, I also, _____ I _____ of your _____ in the Lord Jesus, and _____ for all the _____, do not _____ to give thanks for _____, making _____ of you in my _____: that the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may _____ to _____ the spirit of _____ and revelation in the _____ of _____, the eyes of your _____ would be enlightened; that you may _____ what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints."

• **Ephesians 5:20** "Giving thanks _____ for _____ things to _____ the _____ in the _____ of our Lord _____."

Definition: "Do NOT CEASE to PRAY for YOU" – "Do not cease" means DO NOT STOP. Paul says he does not stop praying for the Believers there in the Colossian church, and he says the same thing to the Believers in Philippi, when he says, "**ALWAYS in every PRAYER of mine making REQUEST for you**". We are also commanded **to PRAY ALWAYS, or without ceasing**. We are also commanded to GIVE THANKS ALWAYS and REJOICE ALWAYS, giving thanks to God in all situations and circumstances. "**Giving thanks ALWAYS for ALL THINGS**" (Ephesians 5:20) - **This is a matter of TRUST and FAITH.** If you do not TRUST God (have faith in Him) to be WORKING ALL THINGS together for your GOOD (Romans 8:28), then you WON'T BE ABLE to give Him thanks for **EVERYTHING** that is happening or has happened in your life. **Persistence in prayer** (praying always) is what Jesus meant in His parable in Luke 18, where He said we need to "**ALWAYS PRAY and NOT lose heart.**" To "lose heart" means to become **discouraged and give up**. We may be praying about something for a long time, and think that God is not answering our prayers, but **we should NOT GIVE UP! Keep praying, KEEP GIVING GOD THANKS,** and the Lord will "avenge us speedily" - it's just that His idea of "speedily" is not always the same as ours, and He does things in His own perfect timing.

• **I Thessalonians 5:16-18** "_____ always, _____ without _____, in everything give _____, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for _____."

• **Hebrews 13:15** “Therefore by Him let us _____ offer the sacrifice of _____ to God, that is the _____ of our _____, giving _____ to His name.”

• **Ephesians 6:18** “Praying _____ with all _____ and supplication in the _____, being watchful to this end with all _____ and _____ for all the _____.”

Definition: “Your FELLOWSHIP in the GOSPEL” – Paul had fellowship with the Philippian believers in person when he visited their city, but **they also supported Paul financially, and in prayer**, so he is referring to this kind of fellowship, also.

• **II Corinthians 8:1-4** “Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the _____ of _____ bestowed on the _____ of _____: that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their _____ and their deep poverty abounded in the _____ of their _____. For I bear witness that according to their _____, yes and _____ their _____, they were freely willing, imploring us that we would _____ the _____ and the _____ of the _____ to the _____.”

6 Being confident of this very thing, that **HE who has BEGUN a GOOD WORK in you will COMPLETE IT** until the day of Jesus Christ.

• **I Peter 1:3-4** “Blessed be the _____ and _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has _____ us _____ to a living _____ through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an _____ incorruptible and undefiled and that does _____ _____, reserved in _____ for you.”

Definition: “HE who has BEGUN a GOOD WORK in you will COMPLETE IT” – When we first accept Jesus as our Savior, **we are born again into God’s family, and that is the GOOD WORK** Paul is talking about here. We are born as little “baby Christians”, but God does not leave us there. His will is for us to grow up to adulthood. God gives us EVERY spiritual blessing and the power through the Holy Spirit for us to grow up into Christ here on earth, and our final INHERITANCE is waiting for us in heaven. **God’s desire and plan for us is to bring us to maturity in Christ and to COMPLETE the GOOD WORK that He began when we first came to Christ.**

• **James 1:18** “Of His own will He _____ us forth by the _____ of _____, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.”

• **Acts 20:32** “And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to _____ you _____ and _____ you an _____ among all those who are _____.”

Definition: “Has BEGOTTEN us AGAIN to a LIVING HOPE” – “BEGOTTEN us AGAIN” means **BORN AGAIN**. In **James 1:18** it says “He brought us forth by the **WORD of TRUTH**.” This is one of those places where the translation is so much better in the original King James Version. The KJV says, “Of His own will **BEGAT He us WITH the word of truth**.” Now, I realize we don’t talk like that any more, and it’s old fashioned, but the word “begat” is so much more descriptive of what God is doing here! Begat means to cause to be conceived and be born, so **God is causing us to be BORN AGAIN by His WORD**, the word of truth. The dictionary says to “beget” means “to procreate as the father”, and the “seed” that the Father uses by which **to bring about our spiritual conception and BIRTH** is His word, the word of God, the word of truth.

• **I Peter 1:23** “Having been _____, not of corruptible _____ but incorruptible, through the _____ of _____ which lives and

abides forever.”

Definition: “An INHERITANCE incorruptible and undefiled and that does NOT FADE AWAY, reserved in HEAVEN” – An inheritance is something of value that you receive after someone has died. **Jesus had to DIE** in order for us to receive our inheritance from God. This inheritance is revealed in the “Last Will & Testament” of Jesus Christ, or in other words, in the New Testament of the Bible, God’s word.

The fact that this inheritance is **“incorruptible and undefiled and that does NOT FADE AWAY” means that it is for ALL ETERNITY, and nothing can destroy it.** The location of our inheritance in its entirety is in HEAVEN. Much of our inheritance is available to us while we are here on earth, and as we read God’s word, we discover what those things are that He has given us. Some of it will not be ours until we get to heaven.

•**Colossians 1:5** “Because of the hope which is _____ for _____ in _____, of which you heard before in the _____ of the _____ of the _____.”

•**Matthew 6:20-21** “But _____ for yourselves _____ in _____, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your _____ is, there your _____ will be also.”

•**I Peter 5:4** “And when the Chief Shepherd (Jesus) _____, you will _____ the _____ of _____ that does not _____ away.”

7-8 Just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both **in my CHAINS and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel**, you all are partakers with me of grace. For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you with the affection of Jesus Christ.

•**Colossians 4:18** “This salutation by my own hand – _____. Remember my _____. Grace be with you. Amen.”

•**II Timothy 1:16-17** “The Lord grant _____ to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often _____ me, and was _____ of my _____; but when he arrived in Rome, he _____ me out very diligently and _____ me.”

Definition: “In my CHAINS and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel” – When Paul was in Rome, **he was a prisoner for his faith in Jesus Christ.** The Roman ruler, Caesar, demanded that everyone should worship him as “god”, so in refusing to worship Caesar, and worshiping the one true God and His Son Jesus Christ, Paul was in violation of that law of the Roman government. Paul had a chain attached to his leg, and was guarded by a Roman soldier, but was not in an actual prison or prison cell. His friends and other Christians would come to Paul and bring him food and other things he needed, but Paul was not allowed to leave.

•**Ephesians 3:1** “For this reason, I, Paul, the _____ of _____ Christ for you Gentiles ---- “

•**Acts 21:13** “Then Paul answered, ‘What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am _____ not only to be bound [*in chains*], but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the _____.’”

•**Acts 28:16** “Now when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the _____ to the captain of the _____, but _____ was permitted to _____ by _____ with the _____ who _____ him.”