

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Philippians Bible Study

Philippians 1:9-13 Lesson #2

**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.

9-11 And this I pray, **that your LOVE may ABOUND still more and more** in knowledge and all discernment, **that you may APPROVE the things that are EXCELLENT, that you may be SINCERE and without OFFENSE** till the day of Christ, **being FILLED with the FRUITS of righteousness** which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

• **I Kings 3:9-10** “Therefore give to Your servant an _____ heart to judge Your people, that I may _____ between _____ and _____. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours? And the speech _____ the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.”

• **Hebrews 5:14** “But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of _____ have their _____ exercised to _____ both _____ and _____.”

Definition: “That you may APPROVE the things that are EXCELLENT” – This means pretty much the same thing as being able to DISCERN between good and evil - to KNOW what is good and excellent, to APPROVE it and make it KNOWN to others. This ability comes as we grow to maturity in Christ, **ask God for His WISDOM**, renew our minds with the WORD of GOD, and rely on the leading of the Holy Spirit.

• **Proverbs 9:10** “The _____ of the _____ is the beginning of _____, and the knowledge of the Holy One is _____.”

• **Proverbs 2:2-3** “So that you incline your ear to _____, and apply your heart to _____; yes, if you cry out for _____, and lift up your voice for _____,” (Verse 6) “For the _____ gives _____; from His mouth come _____ and _____.”

• **James 3:17** “But the _____ that is from above is first _____, then peaceable, _____, willing to _____, full of _____ and good fruits, without partiality and without _____.”

Definition: “That your LOVE may ABOUND still more and more” – Abound means to grow bigger, or to be the very most. You can talk all you want about how much you love Jesus, but He wants you to **“walk the walk, and not just talk the talk.”** When Jesus says, “If you love Me, keep My commandments,” He is saying that keeping His commandments is proof that you do love Him. We are also commanded to LOVE our NEIGHBOR and LOVE one another. **The Holy Spirit GIVES us the LOVE of God in our HEARTS and the power to carry out the commandments.** God never meant for us to try to live the Christian life in our own strength. **Why do you think we just have the one commandment to LOVE in the New Testament**, whereas they had over 600 commandments to keep in the Old Testament? Romans 5:5 and John 7:37-39 give us part of the answer: **they did NOT have the Holy Spirit DWELLING inside each believer** in the Old Testament times, and it is by the Holy Spirit that **God gives us His love** by which we are able to love one another. On the Day of Pentecost, AFTER Jesus was “glorified” by His resurrection and ascension to heaven, the Holy Spirit was GIVEN and continues to be given to ALL WHO BELIEVE in Him (II Cor. 1:22 & II Cor. 5:5).

• **Romans 5:5** “Now hope does not disappoint, because the _____ of _____

has been _____ out in our _____ by the _____
_____ who was _____ to us.”

• **II Timothy 1:7** “For God has _____ given us a _____ of _____,
but of power, and of _____, and of a sound mind.”

• **John 7:37-39** “On the last day, that great day of the feast, _____ stood and
cried out, saying, ‘If anyone thirsts, let him come to _____ and drink. He who believes in
_____, as the Scripture has said, out of his _____ will flow _____ of living
_____.’ But this He spoke concerning the _____, whom those
believing in Him _____; for the _____
was _____ yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

• **I John 3:23-24** “And this is His _____, that we should believe on the
name of His Son Jesus Christ, and _____ one another as He gave us commandment.
Now he who keeps His commandments abides (dwells) in Him, and He in him. And by this
we know that He abides in us, by the _____ whom He has _____ us.”

• **John 14:15** “If you _____ Me, keep My _____.”

• **John 14:21 & 23-24** “He who has My _____ and _____ them,
it is he who _____ Me. And he who _____ Me will be _____ by My
Father, and I will _____ him and manifest Myself to him.” “Jesus answered and said
to him, ‘If anyone _____ Me, he will _____ My _____; and My Father
will _____ him, and we will come to him and make Our home with him. He who does
_____ love Me does _____ keep My _____; and the word which you hear is not
Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.’”

• **I John 2:6** “He who says he _____ in _____ ought _____ also
to _____ just as He _____.”

• **I John 5:2-3** “By this we know that we _____ the _____ of
_____, when we _____ God and _____ His _____. For
this is the _____ of _____, that we _____ His _____.
And His commandments are not _____.”

Definition: “That you may be SINCERE and without OFFENSE” – This is kind of obvious, that
we, as followers of Christ, should be SINCERE and without hypocrisy. To be without offense
means we are to be loving, kind, gentle, and all the other qualities of Jesus and “fruits of the
Spirit” in our interactions with other people. We are NOT to be OFFENSIVE in our personality or
mannerisms, but we may be offensive to some people just because we belong to Christ and are
preaching the gospel. There ARE hypocrites in the church, yes, but to say the church is FULL of
them is an overstatement. The dictionary defines a hypocrite as **someone who pretends to be
what he or she is not**, and the word comes from a Greek word meaning to act, as in a play. It also
has the distinct meaning of one who PRETENDS to be more pious or virtuous than they really are.
**A TRUE Christian is NOT pretending to be something he or she is not, but rather is IN the
PROCESS of BECOMING what God wants him or her to be.** If I say, “Please be patient, God is
not finished with me yet,” meaning that I am not perfect, that does not make me a hypocrite, and I am
not pretending to be something I am not. Understand the difference. A true Christian is forgiven
and on their way to heaven ONLY by the grace of God, not because they are any better than anyone
else.

• **Matthew 7:15-17** “Beware of _____ prophets, who come to you in sheep’s
clothing, but _____ they are ravenous _____. You will know them by
their _____. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles?
Even so, every _____ tree bears _____ fruit, but a _____ tree bears
_____ fruit.”

Definition: “Being FILLED with the FRUITS of righteousness” – In order to be “FILLED with the FRUITS of righteousness” we must be **filled with the Holy Spirit**. Some people think the filling of the Holy Spirit is a one-time experience, and therefore do not examine themselves on a daily basis to see if they are **continually ALLOWING the Holy Spirit to be in CONTROL** of their lives or not. We are **COMMANDED** to be filled with the Holy Spirit. It is **NOT** a **ONE-TIME** experience, but a continuous, moment-by-moment **YIELDING** of ourselves to the Holy Spirit’s control in our lives. The literal translation of the Greek is **“keep being continually filled” with the Spirit**. **All the FRUIT of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control** will be abundant in your life as you allow the Holy Spirit to control your heart, mind, and actions. This is what Jesus meant by our lives **producing fruit that will glorify God the Father**. “By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit” (John 15:8).

•**Galatians 5:22-23** “But the _____ of the Spirit is _____, joy, _____, longsuffering (patience), kindness, _____, faithfulness, _____, _____.”

•**John 15:4-5, 7 & 8** “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear _____ of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, _____ you _____ in _____. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who _____ in _____, and I in him, bears much _____; for _____ you can do _____.” (Verses 7-8) “If you _____ in Me, and My _____ in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is _____, that you bear much _____; so you will be My disciples.”

•**II Corinthians 9:10** “Now may _____ who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and _____ the _____ of your _____.”

Definition: “If you ABIDE in Me, and My WORDS ABIDE in you” – Abiding in Jesus means having a close relationship and **constant FELLOWSHIP with Him**. Letting **His words abide in you** means digging deep into the word of God, memorizing it, studying it, and getting it down into your spirit (heart) so that it is a vital part of you, and will flow out of you in any situation. **When you reach this level of Christian growth and maturity**, your **PRAYER** life will be fantastic, because you will no longer ask God for foolish or selfish things, and therefore **God can answer your prayers**. **When we abide in Jesus**, He produces much fruit in our lives (also called “good works”), and we fulfill God’s purpose for us.

•**Proverbs 4:20-21** “My son, give _____ to My _____; incline your ear to My _____, do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the _____ of your _____. For they are _____ unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.”

•**Ephesians 2:10** “For we are His _____, created in Christ Jesus for _____, which God has prepared beforehand that we should _____ in them.”

•**Colossians 1:10** “That you may have a walk _____ of the Lord, fully _____ Him, being _____ in every _____.”

12-13 But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually **TURNUED OUT for the FURTHERANCE of the GOSPEL**, so that it has become **EVIDENT in the WHOLE PALACE GUARD**, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ.

•**Acts 28:16** “Now when we came to Rome, the _____ delivered the _____ to the captain of the _____, but _____ was

permitted to _____ by _____ with the _____ who _____ him.”

Definition: “TURNED OUT for the FURTHERANCE of the GOSPEL” – Paul was one of many Christians who were imprisoned for their faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself warned that this would happen, and that we should trust Him to give us the right words to say whenever we were brought before a court, and to use it as an opportunity to give a testimony for our faith in Christ. **Paul’s imprisonment gave him the opportunity to preach the gospel** to the guards and many others connected to them. **“FURTHERANCE of the GOSPEL”** means the PROGRESS of the gospel, so Paul’s imprisonment gave him many opportunities to **preach the gospel to people who might not have been reached any other way.**

•**Luke 21:12-15** “But before all these things, they will _____ their _____ on you and persecute you, _____ you up to the synagogues and _____, and you will be brought before kings and rulers for _____ sake. But it will _____ for _____ as an _____ for _____. Therefore settle it in your hearts _____ to meditate beforehand on what you will _____; for I will give you a _____ and _____ which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict.”

Definition: “EVIDENT in the WHOLE PALACE GUARD” – Paul was chained to a Roman soldier at all times, or at least, the Roman soldier was guarding him while Paul was in chains. The soldiers would have to change shifts after a certain amount of time, so over the years that Paul was under house arrest, he had the opportunity to preach the gospel to many soldiers in the Roman army. The particular **group of soldiers that guarded Paul were called the “palace guard”** - it did not mean that Paul was somehow being kept in the palace.

•**Acts 28:30-31** “Then _____ dwelt _____ whole _____ in his own rented _____, and received all who came to him, _____ the kingdom of _____ and _____ the things which concern the Lord _____ with all _____, no one forbidding him.”

•**Philippians 4:22** “All the _____ greet you, but especially those who are of _____.”

Definition: “Those who are of CESAR’S HOUSEHOLD” – How could the gospel reach even into the household of the Roman emperor, Cesar? Maybe some members of the household heard the gospel while out in the marketplace or from friends, but a good part of it was probably from the **soldiers that were guarding Paul, who got saved and then preached the gospel to their friends in the household or PALACE of Cesar.**