

One book at a time.
One day at a time.



### Simply Study: Philippians 2

Welcome to Simply Study!

Have you had enough of rushing through your Bible study time, trying to keep up with someone else's daily study schedule?

Have you ever finished a daily devotional and marveled at the fact that you barely read a verse of scripture?

Do you long to spend your quiet time soaking in one book of the Bible?

Me too!

Simply Word is a daily Bible study based in one book of the Bible. There's no rush, no scramble. Take as much time as you like to meander with God through one book of the Bible.

#### Simple pieces

- Simply read Repeated readings will help you meditate on truths of God's word.
- Simply mark Let loose your creative side as you simply mark the daily scripture reading passage.
- Simply answer Look back in the scripture to answer questions about the text.
- Simply reflect Consider what God is speaking to your heart and record your thoughts.
- Simply act Become a doer of the word as you decide how to apply what you have learned.
- Simply pray Pray to God about what He has placed on your heart during your study time.

Let's get started!

Focus deeply.
One book at a time.
One day at a time.
Simply Study.

#### Session 1

Get your Bible journal or a printed copy of this Bible study, your favorite pens and pencils and get ready to dive into God's Word!

#### Simply Pray

Before you start your Bible study time, pray and ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit. Ask God to open the eyes of your heart to hear from Him in your study time today.

#### Simply Read

Today we are going to read all of chapter 2 of Philippians. Please read straight through without stopping.

#### Philippians 2 RSV

- 1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,
- 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.
- 3 Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves.
- 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.
- 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
- 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
- 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.
- 8 And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.
- 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name,
- 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

- 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
- 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
- 13 for God is at work in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.
- 14 Do all things without grumbling or questioning,
- 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,
- 16 holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.
- 17 Even if I am to be poured as a libation upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.
- 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.
- 19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered by news of you.
- 20 I have no one like him, who will be genuinely anxious for your welfare.
- 21 They all look after their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.
- 22 But Timothy's worth you know, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.
- 23 I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me;
- 24 and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself shall come also.
- 25 I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need,
- 26 for he has been longing for you all, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill.
- 27 Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

- 28 I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious.
- 29 So receive him in the Lord with all joy; and honor such men,
- 30 for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete your service to me.

#### Simply Mark

Please go back and read the passage again. Take notes, highlight, and underline important words and phrases that capture your attention.

#### Simply Reflect

Reveiw your notes and markings for today.

What is God saying to you today through His Word?

What verse/verses spoke to you the most?

#### Simply Act

What do you need to do because of what you learned today?

#### Simply Pray

In the space below, write your prayer to God about what He has placed on your heart today during your study time.

#### Session 2

Get your Bible journal or a printed copy of this Bible study, your favorite pens and pencils and get ready to dive into God's Word!

#### Simply Pray

Before you start your Bible study time, pray and ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit. Ask God to make you sensitive to what he wants to teach you today.

#### Simply Read

Now read Philippians 2:1-8. Please read straight through without stopping.

- 1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,
- 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.
- 3 Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves.
- 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.
- 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
- 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
- 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.
- 8 And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

#### Simply Mark

Please go back and read the passage again. Take notes, highlight, and underline important words and phrases that capture your attention.

#### Simply Answer

- 1. What wonderful things can we have in Christ Jesus (vs. 1)?
- 2. What would bring Paul complete joy (vs. 2)?
- 3. What 2 things does Paul hope the Philippians do (vs. 3)?
- 4. How do we rid ourselves of selfishness and conceit (vs. 3 and 5)?
- 5. What are we commanded to do in verse 4?
- 6. How is verse 4 a continuation of verse 3?
- 7. Why should the interests of others be a priority to us?
- 8. Verse 5 also translates as "have the mindset of Christ." What did Christ "set his mind to do (vs. 6-8)?
- 9. What did Jesus willingly set aside for you and me (vs. 6)?
- 10. Verse 7 says Jesus emptied himself. Of what did He empty Himself?

- 11. How far did Jesus take his obedience (vs. 8)?
- 12. How far are you willing to take your obedience?

#### Simply Reflect

Reveiw your notes and markings for today.

What is God saying to you today through His Word?

What verse/verses spoke to you the most?

#### Simply Act

What do you need to do because of what you learned today?

#### Simply Pray

In the space below, write your prayer to God about what He has placed on your heart today during your study time.

#### Session 3

Get your Bible journal or a printed copy of this Bible study, your favorite pens and pencils and get ready to dive into God's Word!

#### Simply Pray

Before you start your Bible study time, pray and ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit. Ask God to open the eyes of your heart to hear from Him in your study time today.

#### Simply Read

Today we are going to read Philippians 2:1-16. Please read straight through without stopping.

#### Philippians 2 RSV

- 1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,
- 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.
- 3 Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves.
- 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.
- 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
- 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
- 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.
- 8 And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.
- 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name,
- 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
- 13 for God is at work in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.
- 14 Do all things without grumbling or questioning,
- 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,
- 16 holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

#### Simply Mark

Please go back and read the passage again. Take notes, highlight, and underline important words and phrases that capture your attention.

#### Simply Answer

- 1. What did God do after Jesus humbled Himself (vs. 9)?
- 2. It is God's will that every creature in heaven and on earth should do what according to verses 10 and 11?
- 3. When we give Jesus the honor that is due His name, what is the result (vs. 11)?
- 4. The phrase "work out your own salvation" can be confusing. It does not refer to earning our salvation, but to the progressive work of the Holy Spirit as He transforms our character because of our salvation. Our responsibility is to obey God and cooperate with the Spirit's work. What do you need to do to "work out" your salvation?

#### Simply Mark

- 5. What two things does God do for us as He works to transform us (vs. 13)?
- 6. What should our attitude be during this transformation process (vs. 14)?
- 7. What attributes is God working to establish in us (vs. 15)?
- 8. What will this transformation enable us to do (vs. 16)?
- 9. What is the key to this process? (vs. 16)?
- 10. How can you get more of the Word of Life in your life?

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#### Session 4

Get your Bible journal or a printed copy of this Bible study, your favorite pens and pencils and get ready to dive into God's Word!

#### Simply Pray

Before you start your Bible study time, pray and ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit. Ask God to speak to your heart through His Word.

#### Simply Read

Today we are going to read Philippians 2:17-30. Please read straight through without stopping.

- 17 Even if I am to be poured as a libation upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.
- 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.
- 19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered by news of you.
- 20 I have no one like him, who will be genuinely anxious for your welfare.
- 21 They all look after their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.
- 22 But Timothy's worth you know, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.
- 23 I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me;
- 24 and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself shall come also.
- 25 I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need,
- 26 for he has been longing for you all, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill.
- 27 Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.
- 28 I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and

that I may be less anxious.

29 So receive him in the Lord with all joy; and honor such men,

30 for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete your service to me.

#### Simply Mark

Please go back and read the passage again. Take notes, highlight, and underline important words and phrases that capture your attention.

#### Simply Answer

- 1. How does Paul describe what might happen to him (vs. 17)?
- 2. The Greek word used for "libation" is "spendo." "Spendo" is used figuratively of one who "pours out their blood in a violent death for the cause of God" (Blue Letter Bible). How does he feel about pouring out his blood for the cause of Christ (vs. 17)?
- 3. How does Paul expect the Philippians to feel in the event of his death (vs. 18)?
- 4. How is it possible to rejoice in your own death or the death of a friend?
- 5. What else brings joy to Paul (vs. 19)?
- 6. Of who's interests should we be most concerned (vs. 20-21)?

- 7. What should we join with others to do (vs. 22)?
- 8. What do we learn about how Paul conducts his life in verses 23-24?
- 9. What words does Paul use to desribe Epaphroditus (vs. 25)?
- 10. Which of these words best describes your role during this season of life? Why?
- 11. Read verses 26-30. What can you sum up about the Christian life from these verses?

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### Simply Act

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