



# *To Live is CHRIST*

A Study of the Book of Philippians

## *Lesson Three*

Gold River Calvary Chapel  
Women's Bible Fellowship

Spring 2021

# To Live is CHRIST

## A Study of the Book of Philippians Gold River Calvary Chapel Women's Ministry

### Lesson Three

#### ***Step One: Read the Word***

**"In Him are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Colossians 2:3**

This study uses the Christian Standard Bible translation (CSB), which is provided for you in each lesson in Step One. Please use that version to fill in blanks or answer questions, but you are encouraged to read as many translations as you like in order to get a fuller understanding of the scripture.

In Step One, try to determine the "who, what, where, when or how" of the passage. Look for words that are repeated often, such as "in Christ" or "joy" or "rejoice." Circle any key words and underline phrases that stick out to you. Use the column to the right to jot down any notes, scripture references, or questions you might have.

Note: There is an example of how to do Step One in the Introduction to this study. You can also use the "Bible Study Aids" included in the Introduction to gain more understanding of the passage of scripture.

*Remember to always pray before you read God's Word, asking the Holy Spirit to open the scripture to your understanding.*

**Read Philippians 1:22-30 and 2:1-4 starting on the next page:**

**Philippians 1:22-30 and 2:1-4**  
**Christian Standard Bible**

<sup>22</sup> Now if I live on in the flesh, this means fruitful work for me; and I don't know which one I should choose. <sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two. I long to depart and be with Christ—which is far better— <sup>24</sup> but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. <sup>25</sup> Since I am persuaded of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup> so that, because of my coming to you again, your boasting in Christ Jesus may abound.

<sup>27</sup> Just one thing: As citizens of heaven, live your life worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or am absent, I will hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, in one accord,<sup>[a]</sup> contending together for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup> not being frightened in any way by your opponents. This is a sign of destruction for them, but of your salvation—and this is from God. <sup>29</sup> For it has been granted to you on

Christ's behalf not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, <sup>30</sup> since you are engaged in the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I have.

### **Christian Humility**

**2** If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, **2** make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. **3** Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. **4** Everyone should look not to his own interests, but rather to the interests of others.

## ***Step Two: Consider the Word***

**“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.” Colossians 3:16**

Re-read Philippians 1:22-30 and 2:1-4 and answer the questions below.

1. Paul was faced with an uncertain future in prison. He could be martyred when he came to trial or the Lord could choose to have him set free.
  - a. When considering these possible outcomes, why was Paul torn between desiring to be with the Lord through death or living on in this life? (verses 22-26)
  - b. Which did he decide was the better choice? Why?
  - c. How do you think Paul’s choice not only benefitted the Philippians but the church throughout the centuries?
2. In verse 27, Paul called the Philippians (and all believers) “citizens of heaven.”
  - a. How is a citizen of heaven to walk in this world?

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4. a. What would make Paul's joy complete in Chapter 2, verse 2? Fill in the blank below:

...make my joy complete by \_\_\_\_\_ the same way, having the same  
\_\_\_\_\_, united in \_\_\_\_\_, intent on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

- b. How would that be achieved? (Chapter 2, verses 3-4)

- c. According to James 3:16, what is the result of not being humble and looking out for the interests of others?

- d. What connection is there between unity in the church and our own joy in fellowship?

**Memory Verse:** “For it has been granted to you on Christ’s behalf not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him...” [Philippians 1:29 (a)]

Write the memory verse down below:

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### ***Step Three: Walk in the Word***

**“...As citizens of heaven, live your life worthy of the gospel of Christ.” Philipplians 1:27**

Re-read Philipplians 1:22-30 and 2:1-4 and answer the questions below:

1. In verse 22, Paul is absolutely convinced that continuing to live, even while being in prison, would result in fruitful work for God’s kingdom and that he would be a blessing to his church family at Philippi (verse 24).
  - a. What does John 15:8 tell you as a believer in Jesus that you have been appointed to do and why?
  - b.
    1. According to Ephesians 2:10, whose workmanship are you? (Note: the Greek word for “workmanship” can also be translated “masterpiece.”)
    2. When did God prepare these good works (fruit) for you to do?
    3. Who should get the glory for your good works?

c. Give some examples of how God has been faithful to produce good works for His glory through you:

d. What are some ways in which you would like to be a blessing to others before you get to go to be with the Lord?

2. See verse 27:

a. What practical ways could you contribute to “standing firm in one spirit, in one accord, contending together for the faith of the gospel?” (Hint: see Col 3:12-14)

b. What actions might cause disunity?

3. See verse 29. The Greek word translated “granted” in verse 29 means: “To do something pleasant or agreeable (to one), to do a favor, to gratify, to show one’s self-graciousness, kindness and benevolence.”
- a. How does it impact you to know that God has granted, as a gift to you, belief in him through Jesus Christ?
- b. 1. Have you ever suffered for Christ’s sake? Describe below:
2. Do you consider your suffering as “granted” as a gift as defined above? Does this definition change your view of suffering?
3. Do you consider both the gift of belief and the gift of suffering of equal value in your estimation as God does? Why or why not?

4. What does verse 29 and 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 tell you about your sufferings and God's careful and loving sovereignty over them?

5. How might this understanding help you to "not be frightened in any way" by those who persecute you? (See verse 28 and Romans 8:31-35)

6. How might this understanding help you to comfort and counsel others going through affliction?

4. See Col 2:1-4.

a. Have you experienced encouragement in Christ, consolation of love, and fellowship with the Spirit from your church family? List an example below.

- b. List some practical ways could you offer encouragement, love and fellowship in the Spirit to others in the body of Christ:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c. In what ways do you struggle with rivalry or thinking yourself better than others?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- d. Do you think it is possible to be too humble (not falsely modest but genuinely humble)? Why or why not?

Write the memory verse below:

**“For it has been \_\_\_\_\_ to you on \_\_\_\_\_ behalf not only  
to \_\_\_\_\_ in him, but also to \_\_\_\_\_ for him...”  
[Philippians 1:29 (a)]**

What lesson or truth meant the most to you this week?

Journal a prayer below, thanking God for that truth.

## This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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