

## *Philippians (To Live Is Christ) Series Overview*

### **Series Summary:**

On his second missionary journey, the apostle Paul (and his partner Silas) traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and leading city in Macedonia (Acts 16:12). The Holy Spirit used Paul and Silas to lead Lydia and her household to faith in Jesus Christ. A new church met in Lydia's home. Paul and Silas were arrested in Philippi after casting a demon out of a fortune-telling slave girl, but then the Lord miraculously delivered them from jail. The terrified Philippian jailer asked, "what must I do to be saved?" and the apostles shared the good news they had been sent to deliver: "believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved – you and your household."

The church of Philippi was born from the bold proclamation of the gospel and miraculous signs and wonders from God. And the church prospered in the midst of persecution and suffering. Years after the church was started, Paul wrote a letter to the believers at Philippi from his prison cell in Rome. The letter contains his heartfelt love for the church in Philipp and his encouragement to continue to grow in faith, hope, joy, and love in Jesus Christ. Paul loves the disciples he has left behind and wants them to continue to protect the unity of the church and spread the message of Christ.

The focus of his letter is Jesus Himself. As disciples, we commit ourselves to believe in Jesus for salvation, follow the Way of Jesus in humility and love, and to value knowing Christ over every earthly pursuit. God's message to us today is the same as his message to the Philippians: *to live is Christ and to die is gain*. We are confident that our citizenship is in heaven, so we do not fear death. But we also know that every day we've been given on this earth is to live for Christ. I hope you will join us for our ten-week journey through the letter of Philippians, as we learn to keep our eyes on Christ in all situations.

### **Preaching Outline:**

#### **Sunday, February 11, 2024**

Title: Partnership in Christ

Text: Philippians 1:1-11

Topic: The work of the Kingdom requires partnership in Christ. We can't do gospel ministry in isolation. We need each other at Cityview, we need other churches in Round Rock, and we need partners in our association. The Lord brings us great joy when we partner together with others to make Christ known.

Action Step: Find ministry partnerships at Cityview, in the city, and around the world.

#### **Sunday, February 18, 2024**

Title: Proclamation of Christ

Text: Philippians 1:12-20

Topic: The primary purpose of our lives as Christians is to proclaim Christ. We commit ourselves to use our time, talent, and treasure to announce the good news of Jesus to every man, woman, and child.

Action Step: Don't wait for perfect Bible knowledge before you open your mouth and tell others about Jesus.

#### **Sunday, February 25, 2024**

Title: Life with Christ

Text: Philippians 1:21-30

Topic: Christians see this life through the lens of eternity with Christ. If we suffer and die, we know that we will be with Christ forever. If we live, we know that He has work left for us to do on the earth. Everything is for Christ.

Action Step: Walk daily with Jesus in this life and maintain hope in Christ for the life to come.

**Sunday, March 3, 2024**

Title: Humility of Christ

Text: Philippians 2:1-11

Topic: Jesus modeled the way of humility for us, showing us how to lay down our rights for the benefit of others. Christians should lead the way in considering others ahead of our own interests.

Action Step: Follow Jesus in the way of humility, thinking of how you can bless and serve others this week.

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

Title: Lights for Christ

Text: Philippians 2:12-18

Topic: God calls us to live worthy of the gospel we have received, to be lights for Christ in a dark and corrupted world. Our lives should testify to the truthfulness of our words.

Action Step: Reject the crooked and perverted ways of our generation, walking in the light and pushing back darkness.

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**

Title: Courageous in Christ

Text: Philippians 2:19-30

Topic: Paul's ministry partners (Timothy and Epaphroditus) sacrificed everything (even their lives) for the sake of the gospel ministry among the Philippians.

Action Step: Courageously follow Christ regardless of the cost, willing to go anywhere and do anything so that people can know the Risen Savior.

**Sunday, March 24, 2024**

Title: Knowing Christ

Text: Philippians 3:1-11

Topic: God's people should not put confidence in the accomplishments of this world. Everything we can gain here is less important than the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ.

Action Step: Spend more time and energy pursuing Christ than pursuing the pleasures of this world.

**Sunday, March 31, 2024**

Title: Perseverance for Christ

Text: Philippians 3:12 – 4:1

Topic: Christians don't get stuck in the past but instead press on toward the calling we have in Christ. God promises to reward the perseverance of His people.

Action Step: Discern and follow God's heavenly call for you in Christ. Don't give up but stay the course.

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

Title: Rejoice in Christ

Text: Philippians 4:2-9

Topic: The Bible commands Christians to rejoice in the Lord. Jesus purchased our peace on the cross so that we don't have to be anxious or afraid.

Action Step: Take every stress you feel to God in prayer and rejoice in all you have already received in Christ.

**Sunday, April 14, 2024**

Title: Content with Christ

Text: Philippians 4:10-23

Topic: Paul appreciates the support of the Philippians for his ministry and shares that he has learned how to be content with much and content with little. His contentment is rooted in Christ, not his circumstances.

Action Step: Be content with what you have in Christ and be generous with others. You can always trust in God, who will supply all your needs.