

## BIBLE STUDY 1



### Read Philippians 1:4-7

1. How does Paul describe his relationship with the Philippians?  
(See verse 5.)
  
2. The word "gospel" means "good news". What is this good news they're living out?
  
3. Look at verse 6. What does Paul mean by the "good work" that happens in believers?
  
4. How can Paul be so confident that this good work will carry on in believers?
  
5. Paul is sure that the Philippians "share in God's grace" with him (verse 7).  
What does "grace" mean here?
  
6. Look at Philippians 1:5. How can Paul be so sure that they "share in God's grace" with him?
  
7. We might not be sure that we are Christians.  
How can we know whether or not we "share in God's grace"?

## BIBLE STUDY 2



### Read Philippians 1:12-14

1. Where is Paul when he writes this letter to the Philippians, and why?
2. Many people think that being in prison is a disaster. What does Paul think (verses 12-13)?
3. Paul preached the gospel to others. What has happened to him as a result? And what has happened to most of his friends as a result (verses 12-14)?
4. How easy do you find it to tell other people about Jesus? Are there other things you find it easier to talk about? Why do you think that is?

### Read Philippians 1:18

5. What makes Paul rejoice? What is most important to him?
6. God does not promise us easy lives when we become Christians. What have you learned today that will help you when you are suffering for the sake of the gospel?
7. How easy do you think it would be to let go of your comfort, security and reputation so long as people are hearing about Christ?

## BIBLE STUDY 3



### Read Philippians 2:1-4

1. Look at verses 1-2. What should the Philippians do if they have "encouragement from being united with Christ"?
  
2. Do you have encouragement from being united with Christ? Can you explain what this means to you?
  
3. In verse 3, Paul says: "In humility value others above yourselves". What might that look like in practice? (See verses 3-4.)

### Read Philippians 2:5-8

4. Look at verse 6. Who was Jesus?
  
5. In verse 6 it says that Jesus is "in very nature God". But what is the "mindset" of Jesus? (See verses 7-8.)
  
6. You and I aren't like Jesus, in that we're not "in very nature God". But how does the description of Jesus in verses 6-8 change the way you relate to others in prison?

## BIBLE STUDY 4



### Read Philippians 2:12-18

1. In verse 12, what do you think “work out your salvation” means?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What ways of living in verses 14-15 would make you blend into the crowd on the wing?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What ways of living in verses 14-15 would make you stand out from the crowd on the wing?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Paul says that they will shine in the world like stars in the sky as they “hold firmly to the word of life”. What does it mean to hold firmly to the word of life?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Can you identify just one way you’ll be different for the sake of Christ today?

Discipleship  
EXPLORED  
PRISON EDITION



1. What has Paul done in the past to try to make himself right with God? (See verses 4-6.)
2. Paul had done all these things to make himself acceptable to God. How does he describe all these things in verse 8? Why?
3. Why is knowing Jesus the most important thing for Paul now? (See verses 8-9.)
4. Paul warns the Philippians that they cannot be accepted by God because of circumcision. What sorts of things might we be tempted to think will make us righteous?
5. What would you say to God if he asked you why he should give you eternal life?

## BIBLE STUDY 6



### **Read Philippians 3:17 – 4:1**

1. How do you recognise an enemy of the cross of Christ?  
(See 3:18-19.)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. In Philippians 3:17 Paul tells us to follow his example. Given what you know of Paul, what would that involve?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Why should Christians live in this way, according to Paul in verse 20?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What promises does the Bible make to Christians in verses 20-21?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Philippians 4:1 says: "Stand firm in the Lord". Given what you've learned from Philippians, what do you need to put in place in order to stand firm?

Discipleship  
EXPLORED  
PRISON EDITION



1. What do we generally think about?
2. What does Paul ask us to think about in verse 8?
3. What are the opposites of these things?
4. What happens when we think about the things in the second column (the opposites)?
5. What happens when we think about the things in Paul's list (the first column)?
6. What is it about Jesus that helps us to think in this way?