

Teaching Through Philippians

Christ the Key to Christian Living

<u>Lesson</u>	<u>Topic and Chapter</u>
1	Christ Our Life -- The Christian's Philosophy (Phil. 1:1-30)
2	Christ Our Mind -- The Christian's Pattern (Phil. 2:1-30)
3	Christ Our Goal -- The Christian's Purpose (Phil. 3:1-21)
4	Christ Our Power -- The Christian's Perseverance (Phil. 4:1-23)

Lesson 1: Christ Our Life (Philippians 1:30)

Key Verse: "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (Phil. 1:21)

I. Salutation (Phil 1:1-7)

- A. Greetings to Church and officers (1:1-2)
- B. Thanks to God for their missionary giving (1:3-7)

II. Paul's Concern for Their Life (Phil. 1:8-11)

- A. Paul longs for them with Christ's yearning (1:8)
- B. Paul prays for their Christ-like maturity (1:9-11)
 - 1. That love may abound unto excellence (9-10)
 - 2. That they be sincere unto fruitfulness (11)

III. Paul Comforts Them Regarding His Life (Phil. 1:12-26)

- A. Paul's troubled life advances the Gospel (1:12-18)
 - 1. His bonds are manifest in the palace (13)
 - 2. Brethren are made bold (14-18)
- B. Paul's troubled life will turn to salvation (1:19-26)
 - 1. Paul's objective: to magnify Christ (20)
 - 2. Paul's life: Christ (21)
 - 3. Paul's dilemma: life or death (22-26)

IV. Paul's Command for Their Life (Phil. 1:27-30)

- A. Let your life be worthy of the Gospel (1:27-28)
 - 1. Stand firm in the unity of spirit and mind (27)
 - 2. Strive together for the faith (27)
 - 3. Be terrified in nothing (28)
- B. Your life includes suffering for Christ (1:29-30)

Lesson 2: Christ Our Mind (Philippians 2:1-30)

Key Verse: "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:" (Phil. 2:5)

I. Exhortations for the Christian Mind (Phil. 2:1-16)

- A. Be like-minded (2:1-2)
- B. Be lowly-minded (2:3-4)
- C. Be Christ-minded (2:5-11)
 - 1. The mind of Christ (5-8)
 - a. Humble mind (6)
 - b. Selfless mind (7)
 - c. Obedient mind (8)
 - 2. The resulting glory of Christ (9-11)
- D. Be work-minded (2:12-16)

II. Examples for the Christian mind (Phil. 2:17-30)

- A. Paul's example: a mind of sacrifice and joy (2:17-18)
- B. Timothy's example: a mind of care and service (2:19-24)
- C. Epaphroditus' example: a mind of concern and selflessness (2:25-30)

Lesson 3: Christ Our Goal (Philippians 3:1-21)

(Seven Goals for Christians)

Key Verse: "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus: (Phil. 3:14)

- I. The Goal of Joy: Rejoice in the Lord (Phil. 3:1)
- II. The Goal of Caution: Beware of error (Phil. 3:2-3)
- III. The Goal of Personal Values: (Phil. 3:4-9)
 - A. Losses: Confidence in the flesh (3:4-6)
 - B. Gains: Christ and His righteousness (3:7-9)
- IV. The Goal of Personal Growth in Christ: (Phil. 3:10)
 - A. To know Christ
 - B. To know His resurrection power
 - C. To know fellowship of His suffering
 - D. To be made conformable to His death
- V. The Goal of Rewards: The prize of the high calling (Phil 3:11-16)
- VI. The Goal of Good Leadership: (Phil. 3:17-19)
 - A. Follow men of good example (3:17)
 - B. Failure of bad leadership (3:18-19)
- VII. The Goal of Christ's Second Coming (Phil. 3:20-21)

Lesson 4: Christ Our Power (Philippians 4:1-23)

Key Verse: "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." (Phil. 4:13)

I. Christ Our Power Over Weakness (Phil. 4:1-4, 13)
(Weakness robs us of productivity)

- A. Be steadfast in the Lord (4:1)
- B. Be cooperative with the difficult (4:2)
- C. Be helpful to the discouraged (4:3)
- D. Be joyful in the Lord (4:4)

II. Christ Our Power Over Worry (Phil. 4:5-7)
(Worry robs us of peace of mind)

- A. Be moderate: Christ is at hand (4:5)
- B. Don't be anxious: Let God know your requests (4:6)
 - 1. By prayer
 - 2. By supplications
 - 3. With thanksgiving

Result: The peace of God keeps our mind (4:7)

III. Christ Our Power Over Worldliness (Phil. 4:8-9)
(Worldliness robs us of fellowship)

- A. Occupy your mind with wholesome thoughts (4:8)
- B. Occupy your hands with worthy deeds (4:9)

Result: The God of peace is with you. (4:9)

IV. Christ Our Power Over Want (Phil. 4:10-19)
(Selfishness robs of blessing)

- A. Share with others (4:10, 14-18)
- B. Be content in your present state (4:11-13)

Result: God supplies our needs by Christ.

V. Benediction (Phil. 4:20-23)