

DEEP DIVE IN PHILIPPIANS



A 30 DAY DEVOTIONAL

INTRODUCTION:

Have you ever received a long letter, email, or DM from someone? If so, how do you read it the first time?

- Do you read it in pieces over several days?
- Skip to the middle and pick random lines?
- Ask someone else to explain it to you?

Of course not. You read the whole thing to understand the full message. If it's from someone special, you might read it again. And if it's truly important, you may go line-by-line to understand every detail.

Many New Testament “books” are actually letters, also called epistles. Philippians is one of them—a letter written by Paul to the church in Philippi (modern-day Northeast Greece). And, in a way only God can do, it is also a letter to us.

This devotional invites you to approach Philippians as a meaningful letter worth taking in as a whole and then studying closely. Over the next 30 days you will:

- Read the full letter every day for 5 days
- Read each chapter every day for 5 days
- Read the full letter again every day for 5 days

Each day will offer a different way to read and reflect. Through this deep dive, you will see and hear from God in fresh and meaningful ways.

You can do this on your own or with others. Invite a partner or small group, support each other, check in daily, and discuss weekly.

Are you ready?

It's time for a Deep Dive!

DAY 1: Entire Letter pt.1

Note: as a part of this Deep Dive you will pick a different version/translation to study in each five-day section, but you will want to pick a primary one to study from.

My Main Version/Translation I will study from: _____.

Who wrote Philippians and who was it written for?

Author: *Paul*

a Jewish leader who once opposed Christians but had a life-changing encounter with Jesus that completely redirected his life. He became a key leader in the early church, traveling to teach others about Jesus, and he wrote Philippians while in prison for sharing the gospel.

Recipients: *The Church of Philippi*

The church in Philippi was made up of everyday people learning to follow Jesus in a city that strongly valued Roman pride, power, and success. It was started by Paul and included new believers from different backgrounds, including business leaders and former prisoners. These Christians cared deeply for Paul and were trying to live out their faith with joy and humility while facing pressure and hardship.

READ ALL OF PHILIPPIANS IN ONE SITTING

This may sound strange; do not read slowly. Avoid pausing to underline or get too locked in on a specific line or section. In this reading you are trying catch the general vibe and big message of the letter. **Once done, respond to the following prompts:**

In your own words, try to sum up Paul's message to the Church in Philippi in a sentence or two:

Pick three or four topics/themes that were mentioned that stuck out to you:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Do any of the topics or themes you mentioned connect to what is going on in your life right now? How?

Pick one verse or small section of a couple of verses that jumped out to you and write it out below:

What is it about the verse(s) that jumped out at you?

PRAYER:

Close out your time thanking God for a chance to take a deep dive in Philippians. Pray for any of the areas of your life that you were able to connect with the topics or themes you mentioned.

DAY 2: Entire Letter pt. 2

WATCH:

The Bible Project has made some amazing videos that give a narrated and illustrated overview of every book of the Bible. Take a moment to watch the video by scanning the QR code or go to www.tinyurl.com/bpPhilippians



Write out any notes you have from the video here:

READ ALL OF PHILIPPIANS IN ONE SITTING

Again, the goal is not a slow read where you stop to deeply reflect. This time, keep the video and your notes in mind as you read. **Once done, respond to the following prompts.**

Without looking back at what you wrote on Day 1, write a summary of the message of Philippians in a sentence or two:

Go back to your Day 1 summary and compare. What do you notice about your two summaries?
