

1. GOD'S PROVISION BEGINS WITH OUR CONTENTMENT. (vv.10-12)

- **CONTENTMENT ALWAYS PRECEDES PROVISION.**
- **WHAT DO WE NEED TO LEARN?**
- **CONTENTMENT IS A **LEARNED STATE.****
 - "LEARNED" = ACTION WORD
 - "CONTENT" = ALL WE NEED

1. GOD'S PROVISION BEGINS WITH OUR CONTENTMENT. (vv.10-12)

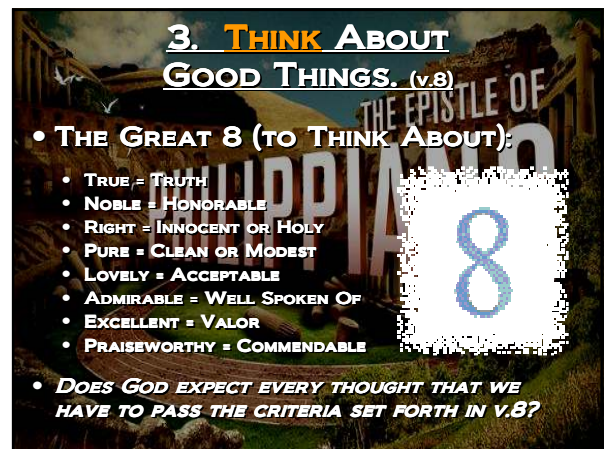
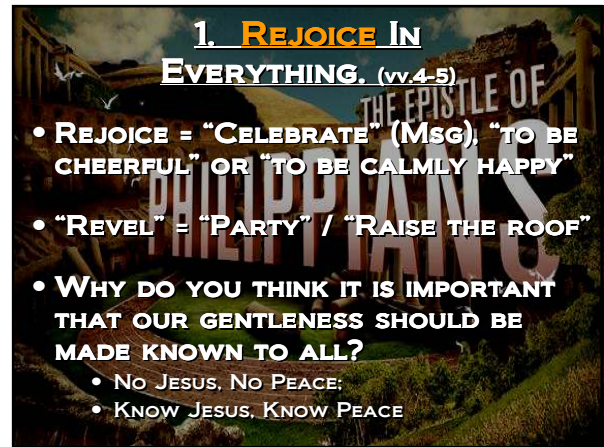
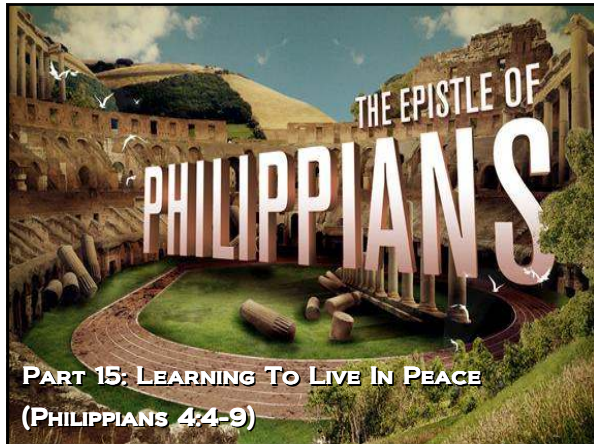
- **THE LEVEL OF HIS **PROVISION** FOR US DOES NOT DETERMINE **GOD'S LOVE** FOR US.**
 - **GOD LOVES US BASED ON WHO HE IS, NOT ON WHAT WE HAVE!**

2. GOD'S **PROVISION IS BASED ON HIS **POWER.**** (v.13)

- **"WHATEVER I HAVE, WHEREVER I AM, I CAN MAKE IT THROUGH ANYTHING IN THE ONE WHO MAKES ME WHO I AM."**
- **DOES GOD'S PROVISION ALWAYS HAVE TO BE MONEY?**
- **GOD'S PROVISION COMES THROUGH THE POWER THAT HE GIVES US TO MAKE IT THROUGH ANY & EVERY SITUATION...**

3. GOD'S **PROVISION COMES THROUGH OUR **OBEDIENCE.**** (vv.14-19)

- **GIVING ALWAYS PRECEDES PROVISION.**
- **TWO SIGNIFICANT SITUATIONS:**
 1. **THEIR GIFTS BECAME **SACRIFICES** TO GOD. (v.18)**
 2. **THEIR GIFTS ENSURED THEIR **PROVISION.** (v.19)**
- **WE MUST BE AN **OFFERING** TO HIM!**



4. PRACTICE WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED. (v.9)

- **WHAT IS IT THAT WE HAVE TO DO TO ENJOY THE GOD OF PEACE IN OUR LIVES?**
 - BELIEVE IT → LIVE IT!
 - "PUT INTO PRACTICE" = REPEAT / HABIT
 - PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT...
 - **WHEN WE ARE LIVING THIS LIFE, THE PEACE OF GOD IS A GIVEN!**

PART 14: LEARNING TO GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER (PHILIPPIANS 4:2-3)



1. THE BASIS FOR GETTING ALONG. (v.2)

A. THE URGENCY TO GET ALONG

- "URGENCY" = NEED, IMPORTANCE, NECESSITY!
- STRONG LANGUAGE = "PLEAD" (TO CALL OUT)
- **WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?**
 - BECAUSE IT HINDERS THE WORK OF GOD.
 - BECAUSE IT HURTS THE WITNESS OF GOD.

1. THE BASIS FOR GETTING ALONG. (v.2)

B. THE KEY TO GETTING ALONG

- "AGREE WITH EACH OTHER IN THE LORD" = "MAKE UP" (MSG) OR "SETTLE YOUR DISAGREEMENT" (NLT)
- **IS THERE ANYBODY IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW WHO YOU AGREE WITH ON EVERYTHING?**
 - IT IS AMAZING THAT, WHEN WE FOCUS ON WHAT GOD HAS CALLED US FOR, THE THINGS WE DISAGREE ABOUT BECOME VERY SMALL AND INSIGNIFICANT.

2. OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP OTHERS GET ALONG. (v.3)

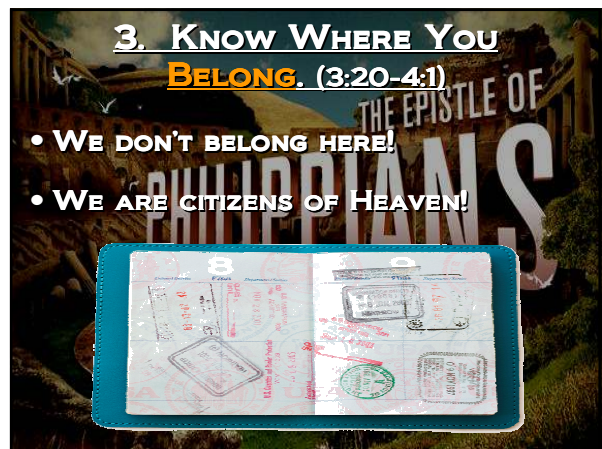
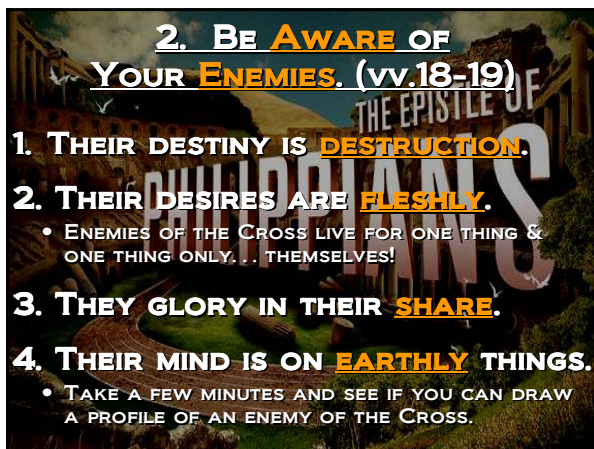
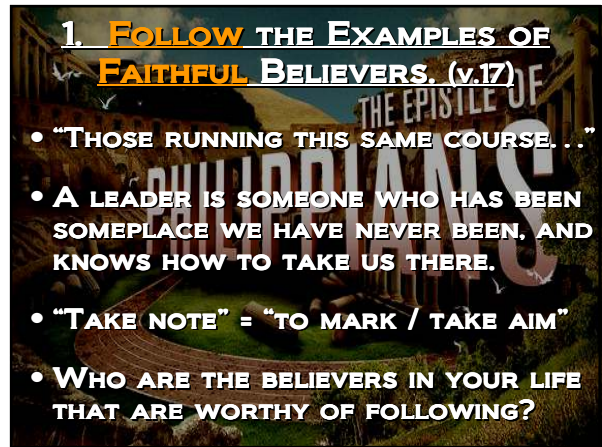
WHAT CAN WE DO WHEN OTHERS ARE HAVING PROBLEMS?

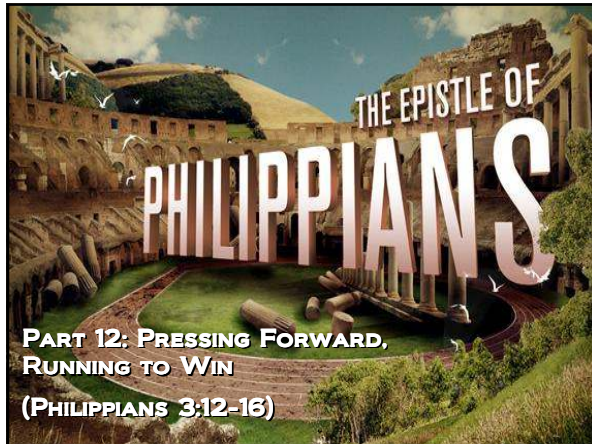
A. GET INVOLVED

- "HELP" = "TO TAKE HOLD TOGETHER WITH ONE"

B. REALIZE THE VALUABLE RESOURCE THAT IS BEING WASTED

- FIGHTING WITH EACH OTHER = NOT FIGHTING SATAN! (WE'RE WASTING VALUABLE TIME!)





1. RUN WITH PURPOSE. (v.12)

- ACTS 9:15 = "BUT THE LORD SAID, "GO, FOR SAUL IS MY CHOSEN INSTRUMENT TO TAKE MY MESSAGE TO THE GENTILES AND TO KINGS, AS WELL AS TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL."" (NLT)
- WHAT DOES GOD SAY WAS HIS PURPOSE FOR PAUL'S LIFE?
- IT IS EASIER TO WIN A RACE IF YOU KNOW WHICH RACE YOU ARE RUNNING!

2. RUN WITHOUT YOUR PAST. (v.13)

- HOW TO OVERCOME OUR PAST TO MAKE WAY FOR OUR FUTURE:

- 1. BURYING THE DEFEATS**
 - STOP DWELLING ON THE MISTAKES
- 2. SHELVING THE VICTORIES**
 - TROPHY CASE THEM & MOVE ON

3. RUN WITH AN ATTITUDE. (v.14)

- 1 CORINTHIANS 9:24 = "DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT IN A RACE EVERYONE RUNS, BUT ONLY ONE PERSON GETS THE PRIZE? SO RUN TO WIN!" (NLT)
- HOW DOES PAUL SAY WE SHOULD RUN?
 - "RUN TO WIN" (NLT), "OBTAIN IT" (NKJV), "GET THE PRIZE" (NIRV), "MAKE IT YOURS" (AMP)
- REMEMBER, RUN TO WIN, DO NOT RUN TO FINISH!

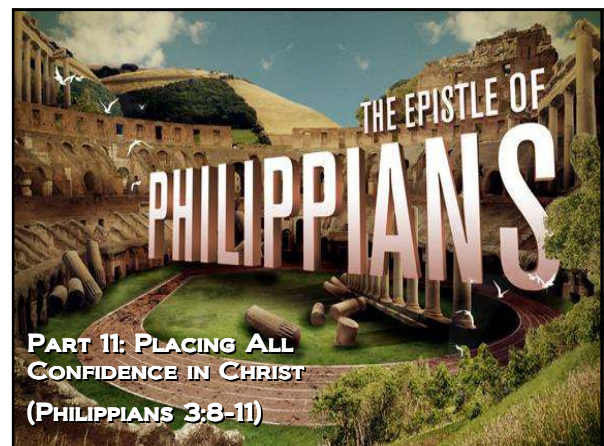


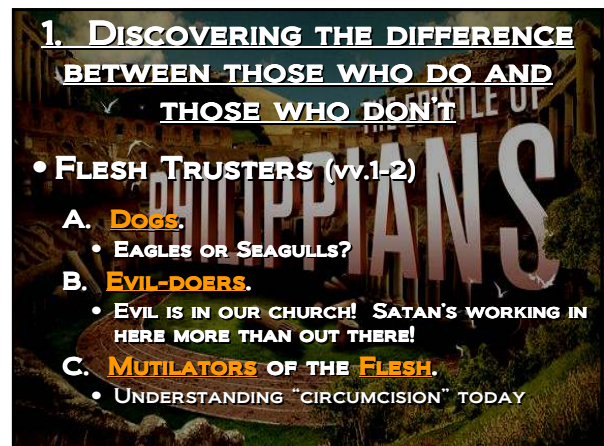
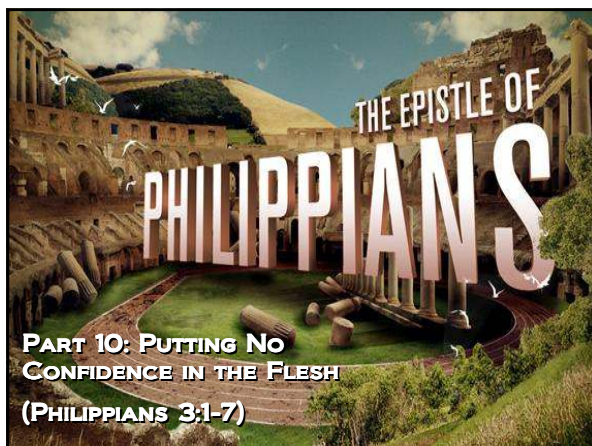
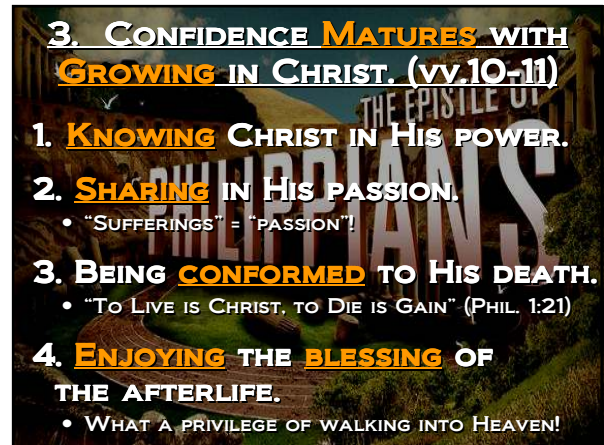
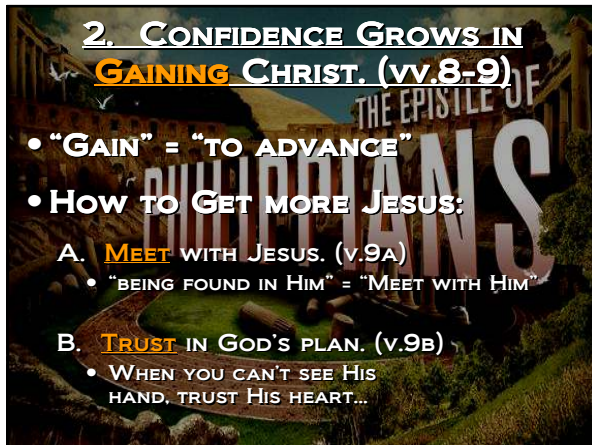
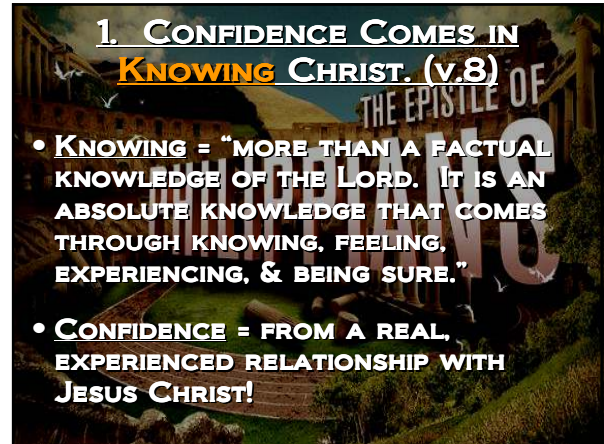
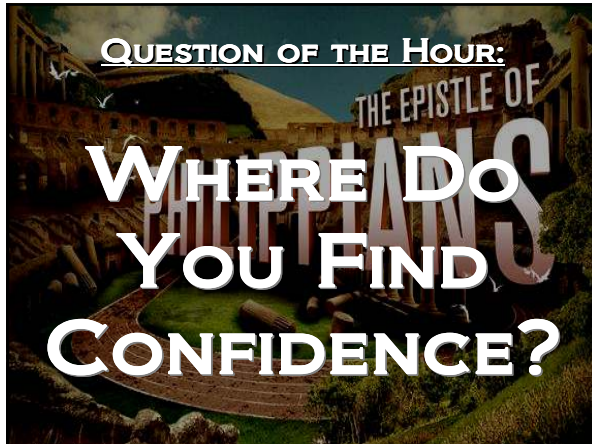
4. RUN WITH FOCUS. (vv.15-16)

WHILE YOU ARE RUNNING:

- 1. DON'T BE DISTRACTED BY OTHERS. LET GOD DO THE COACHING.** (v.15)
 - JUST KEEP RUNNING...
- 2. RUN WITH WHAT YOU KNOW.** (v.16)
 - RUN WHERE GOD HAS PLACED YOU...

RUN THE RACE YOU WERE CALLED TO RUN!





1. DISCOVERING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THOSE WHO DO AND THOSE WHO DON'T

- **SPirit TRUSTERS (v.3)**
 - A. THE **TRUE CIRCUMCISION.**
 - LESS OF ME, MORE OF HIM
 - B. THOSE WHO **WORSHIP BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD.**
 - ...FROM THE HEART
 - C. THOSE WHO **GLORY IN CHRIST.**
 - "RELY" ON CHRIST (NLT)

2. PUTTING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN PERSPECTIVE

- **THE RESUME OF SAUL OF TARSUS:**
 - A. **CIRCUMCISED** ON THE 8TH DAY.
 - B. OF THE **PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.**
 - C. OF THE TRIBE OF **BENJAMIN.**
 - D. A **HEBREW OF HEBREWS.**
 - E. IN REGARD TO THE LAW, A **PHARISEE.**
 - F. AS FOR ZEAL, **PERSECUTING** THE CHURCH.
 - G. AS FOR LEGALISM, **FAULTLESS.**

2. PUTTING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN PERSPECTIVE

- IF THERE WAS ANYONE WHO COULD CLAIM TO HAVE A RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THEIR OWN, IT WAS PAUL. HOW DID PAUL VIEW ALL OF HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS?
- *"I ONCE THOUGHT THESE THINGS WERE VALUABLE, BUT NOW I CONSIDER THEM WORTHLESS BECAUSE OF WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE."* (PHILIPPIANS 3:7, NLT)
- "I DON'T WANNA GO THROUGH THE MOTIONS"



"THE MOTIONS"
(BY MATTHEW WEST)

THE EPISTLE OF PHILIPPIANS

PART 9: LIVING EXAMPLES:
EPAPHRODITUS - THE FAITHFUL COMPANION
(PHILIPPIANS 2:25-30)

1. A FAITHFUL COMPANION IS ONE WHO SACRIFICES THEIR COMFORT

- HOW WAS EPAPHRODITUS ABLE TO MAKE SUCH A CHOICE?
- BECAUSE OF HIS **RELATIONSHIP WITH PAUL.** (v.25)
- LOOK WHAT PAUL CALLS HIM:
 - GOOD FRIEND, COMPANION, TRUE BROTHER, CO-WORKER, FELLOW SOLDIER...

1. A FAITHFUL COMPANION IS ONE WHO SACRIFICES THEIR COMFORT

- How was Epaphroditus able to make such a choice?
- BECAUSE HE SAW **LABOR** AS **WORSHIP**. (v.25)
 - "CARE FOR" = "WORSHIPPER OF GOD"
 - *WHEN WE LEARN TO SEE OUR WORK AS WORSHIP, OUR MOTIVATION GOES FROM BEING FOCUSED ON A PERSON TO BEING FOCUSED ON THE PRINCE OF PEACE.*

2. A FAITHFUL COMPANION PROPERLY DIRECTS THEIR CONCERN

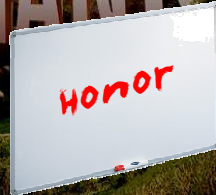
- How is it possible to have such concern for others?
- REALIZE THAT YOUR **LIFE** IS NOT YOUR **OWN**. (v.26)
 - 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20
- TRUST IN GOD'S **MERCY**. (v.27)
 - "MERCY" = KINDNESS BY GRACE!

3. FAITHFUL COMPANIONS ARE PEOPLE WORTHY OF HONOR.

- PHILIPPIANS 2:28-30
 - WE NEED TO HONOR PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO GIVE THEIR ALL FOR THE SAKE OF CHRIST!

WHO WILL YOU HONOR TONIGHT?

COME WRITE THEIR NAME ON THIS BOARD!



THE EPISTLE OF PHILIPPIANS

PART 8: LIVING EXAMPLES:
TIMOTHY - THE FAITHFUL LABORER
(PHILIPPIANS 2:19-24)

"I AM NOT CALLED TO BE SUCCESSFUL,
I AM CALLED TO BE FAITHFUL." (MOTHER TERESA)

1. A FAITHFUL LABORER IS ONE WHO CARES FOR OTHERS

- CARING FOR OTHERS SHOULD **COME OUT OF WHO** WE ARE. (vv.19-20)
 - "GENUINE" = "THE REAL DEAL / NATURAL"
 - WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST = HOW WE NATURALLY SERVE OTHERS

1. A FAITHFUL LABORER IS ONE WHO CARES FOR OTHERS

- CARING FOR OTHERS BECOMES EASY WHEN WE **REALIZE WHOM** WE ARE **SERVING**. (v.21)
- FOR GOD MORE THAN OTHERS
- MATTHEW 25:31-46
- "GOATS VS. SHEEP"

2. A FAITHFUL LABORER IS ONE WHO CAN BE TRUSTED

- TIMOTHY IS "THE REAL THING" AND HE IS "DEVOTED" (MSG)
- BE FOUND **FAITHFUL**. (v.22A)
- PROVED = REAL!
- MATTHEW 25:23 = "WELL DONE, MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT. YOU HAVE BEEN FAITHFUL IN HANDLING THIS SMALL AMOUNT, SO NOW I WILL GIVE YOU MANY MORE RESPONSIBILITIES. LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!" (NLT)

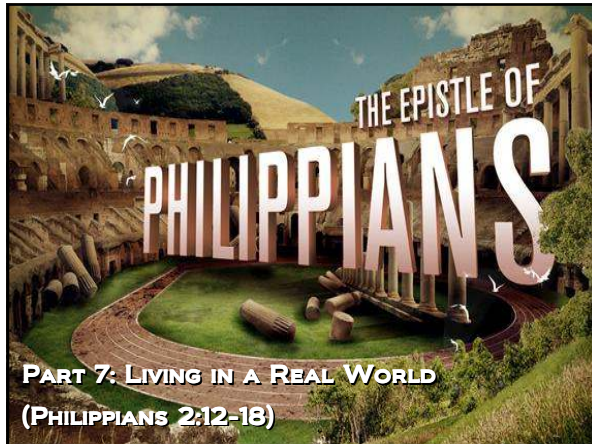
2. A FAITHFUL LABORER IS ONE WHO CAN BE TRUSTED

- BE FOUND FAITHFUL. (v.22A)
- REMEMBER THAT SERVICE MUST BE SEEN **RELATIONALLY**. (v.22B)
- FATHER / SON RELATIONSHIP



2. A FAITHFUL LABORER IS ONE WHO CAN BE TRUSTED

- BE FOUND FAITHFUL. (v.22A)
- REMEMBER THAT SERVICE MUST BE SEEN **RELATIONALLY**. (v.22B)
- FATHER / SON RELATIONSHIP
- TIMOTHY DID NOT SEE HIS SERVICE AS AN OBLIGATION BUT A RESPONSE TO A RELATIONSHIP.
- *How's YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH "DAD"?*



1. MAKING MY SALVATION WORK (vv.12-13)

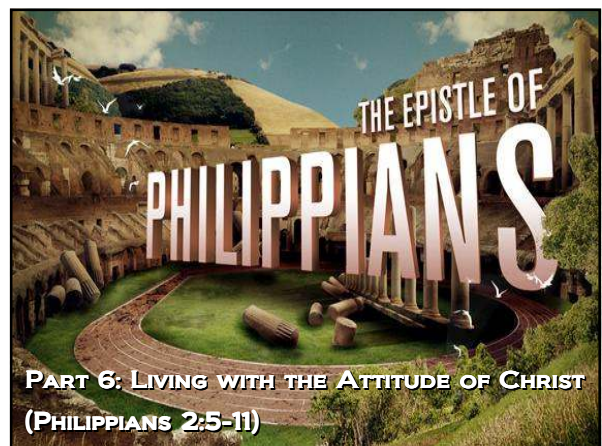
- WORK WITH **FEAR** AND **TREMBLING**. (v.12)
 - "FEAR" = "REVERENCE OR RESPECT"
 - "TREMBLING" = "QUAKING IN FEAR"
- **AS YOU ARE WORKING, DO NOT FORGET THAT GOD IS ALWAYS AT WORK.** (v.13)
 - GOD IS BUSY WORKING.
 - *THE POTTER & THE CLAY (ISAIAH 64:8)*
 - GOD LOVES HIS JOB.

2. ALLOWING MY SALVATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN HOW I LIVE (vv.14-18)

- IT SHOULD AFFECT HOW I **RESPOND** TO MY **WORLD**. (vv.14-15)
 - RESPOND = REACT / REPLY / ANSWER!
 - *DO NOT COMPLAIN.*
 - *DO NOT ARGUE.*
 - INSTEAD... BE A "BREATH OF FRESH AIR" IN THIS "POLLUTED" WORLD (MSG)

2. ALLOWING MY SALVATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN HOW I LIVE (vv.14-18)

- IT SHOULD AFFECT HOW I **RESPOND** TO THE **WORD**. (vv.16-18)
 - "HOLD ON" = "FIRMLY" / "LIVING PROOF"
 - PAYING ATTENTION IS MORE THAN HEARING THE WORD, IT IS APPLYING THE WORD.
 - *DON'T JUST LEARN THE WORD, BE THE WORD!*



1. AN ATTITUDE OF AWARENESS

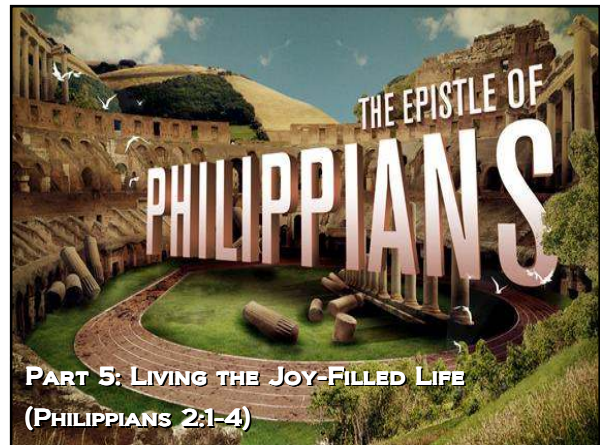
- AWARENESS INVOLVES **KNOWING WHO YOU ARE.** (v.6)
 - "RIGHT THINKING PRODUCES RIGHT ACTIONS" (COMPACT BIBLE COMMENTARY)
 - "NATURE" (GK) = "STATUS"
- **KNOWING WHO YOU ARE SHOULD LEAD YOU TO WHAT YOU SHOULD BECOME.** (v.6)
 - JESUS = EQUAL WITH GOD, BUT A SERVANT
 - YOUR SERVICE = LUKE 12:45

2. AN ATTITUDE OF HUMILITY

- **HUMBLED = LOWER RANK**
 - "INCREDIBLY HUMBLING PROCESS" (MSG)
 - HUMILIATION VS. HUMILITY
- *DEATH BY CRUCIFIXION WAS KNOWN TO BE ONE OF THE MOST HUMILIATING FORMS OF EXECUTION IN JESUS' DAY. HUMILITY IN JESUS' LIFE ALLOWED HIM TO LEAVE THE COMFORTS OF HEAVEN TO ENDURE THE HUMILIATION OF THE CROSS.*

3. AN ATTITUDE OF OBEDIENCE

- PAUL TELLS US THAT BECAUSE OF JESUS' AWARENESS AND BECAUSE OF HIS HUMILITY, HE WAS ABLE TO BECOME OBEIENT.
- **EVEN JESUS HAD TO LEARN OBEDIENCE (HEBREWS 5:7-9)**
 - LEARNING THE ATTITUDE OF CHRIST MAY NOT BE EASY, BUT IT IS REQUIRED!



1. UNDERSTAND THE BENEFITS OF BEING A BELIEVER

- THE BENEFIT OF **ENCOURAGEMENT.** (v.1a)
 - "ENCOURAGE" = "SUPPORT, CHEER ON"
- THE BENEFIT OF **COMFORT.** (v.1b)
 - "THE CHAINS OF LOVE ARE STRONGER THAN THE CHAINS OF FEAR" (W. GURNALL)
- THE BENEFIT OF **FELLOWSHIP.** (v.1c)
 - FELLOWSHIP = PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL!

1. UNDERSTAND THE BENEFITS OF BEING A BELIEVER

- THE BENEFIT OF **COMPASSION AND MERCY.** (v.1d)
 - "HAVE A HEART... CARE" (MSG)
 - "TENDERNESS" (GK) = LIKE "LOVE" IN PHIL. 1:8
 - ISN'T IT GREAT TO KNOW THAT IN JESUS WE CAN FIND THAT PERSON?

2. STRIVE TO BE LIKE-MINDED

- **SHARING THE SAME LOVE.** (v.2A)
 - IN LOVE WITH THE SAME THING!
- **SHARING THE SAME PURPOSE.** (v.2B)
 - HOW DOES PURPOSE AFFECT OUR LIVES AND HOW CAN THE LACK OF PURPOSE KEEP US FROM BEING PRODUCTIVE?
- **SHARING THE SAME CONCERNS.** (vv.3-4)
 - LESS ME, MORE OTHERS... J O Y !!

THE EPISTLE OF PHILIPPIANS

PART 4: LIVING THE FOCUSED LIFE
(PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30)

1. FOCUS ON OUR CONDUCT

- **WE SHOULD LIVE AS CITIZENS OF HEAVEN.** (v.27A)
 - "CONDUCT" (GK) = "TO LIVE AS A CITIZEN"
- **WE SHOULD STAND TOGETHER IN OUR FAITH.** (v.27B)
 - "STAND FIRM" (GK) = "STATIONARY!"
- **WE SHOULD FIGHT TOGETHER FOR THE FAITH.** (v.27C)

2. HAVE A PROPER PERSPECTIVE ON PERSECUTION

- **THE SIGN OF SUFFERING.** (v.28)
 - "SIGN" = "PROOF"
 - SIGN OF DESTRUCTION (v.28A)
 - SIGN OF SALVATION (v.28B)
- **THE HONOR OF SUFFERING.** (v.29)
 - IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT IT IS A PRIVILEGE THAT WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO SUFFER FOR JESUS.
- **THE HONOR OF ASSOCIATION.** (v.30)

THE EPISTLE OF PHILIPPIANS

PART 3: FINDING PURPOSE IN LIFE & DEATH
(PHILIPPIANS 1:21-26)

1. FINDING PURPOSE IN LIFE

- **LIFE MEANS HONORING CHRIST.** (v.21A)
 - 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20
 - WHY DOES JESUS HAVE A RIGHT TO CLAIM OWNERSHIP OF YOUR LIFE?
- **LIFE MEANS FRUITFUL LABOR.** (v.22)
 - "GOOD WORK FOR ME TO DO"
 - CAN TRUE BELIEVERS BE FRUITLESS?
- **LIFE MEANS BRINGING JOY TO OTHERS.**

2. FINDING PURPOSE IN DEATH

- REALIZE THAT THE ULTIMATE **VICTORY** LIES AFTER **DEATH**. (v.21b, 23)
 - "GAIN" = "ADVANTAGE" (WIN-WIN)
 - DEATH MEANS FREEDOM FROM THE CURSE
 - GENESIS 3:16-19
 - DEATH MEANS ETERNITY WITH CHRIST
- REMEMBER THAT DEATH COMES ON **GOD'S TIMETABLE**. (HEBREWS 9:27)
 - "APPOINTED" = "TO BE RESERVED"
 - HAVE YOU RSVP'D FOR HEAVEN?



1. THE **ABILITY** TO SEE OUR **CIRCUMSTANCES** IN POSITIVE LIGHT

- **PAUL NEVER LOST SIGHT!**
 - HE TEACHES US GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL
- **CIRCUMSTANCES LEAD TO THE **ADVANCEMENT** OF THE GOSPEL (v.12)**
 - EVEN WHEN "HAMMERED" WITH JUNK
- **DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES **REVEAL** WHAT WE REALLY STAND FOR (v.13)**

1. THE **ABILITY** TO SEE OUR **CIRCUMSTANCES** IN POSITIVE LIGHT

- OUR EXPERIENCE THROUGH DIFFICULT TIMES CAN BE USED TO **ENCOURAGE OTHERS** (v.14)
 - IT WAS PAUL'S POSITIVE ATTITUDE...

2. THE ABILITY TO **JUDGE** OUR **MOTIVES**

- IS IT POSSIBLE TO BE INVOLVED IN MINISTRY AND BE DOING IT FOR THE **WRONG REASONS?**
 - THE RIGHT REASON = JOHN 3:30!
- REMEMBER THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT RESULT OF OUR ACTIVITY IN MINISTRY IS NOT WHAT WE GET OUT OF IT, BUT THAT THE **GOSPEL IS PREACHED.**

3. THE ABILITY TO SEE OUR **LIFE AS AN INSTRUMENT OF EXALTATION**

- WHAT DID PAUL SEE AS THE MAJOR REASON FOR HIS EXISTENCE?
- HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR CHRIST TO BE EXALTED IN OUR DEATH?
- CAN YOU SAY THE SAME ABOUT YOUR LIFE? **LIVE OR DIE... IT'S FOR CHRIST!**

