

# Bible Time Guide

Philippians

# Introduction

The Bible is clear that parents are to raise their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Eph 6:4). God's people were commanded long ago to teach God's commands diligently to the next generation (Deut 6:7) so that they remember the faithfulness of God always. Whether you are a father, a single mother, or a grandparent, the Bible Time Guide resource is designed to help you lead children through the Bible intentionally and diligently. We have created this resource to be simple to use so that it's not burdensome, allowing the Word of God to do the heavy lifting while you gain momentum in your home with good, godly disciplines that will hopefully bring favor to generations. So many parents or grandparents want to get into the Word of God more consistently with their children or grandchildren but they don't always know where to start. Our prayer is that this resource provides a "track" to run on, helping you to implement "Bible Time" in your home as a part of fulfilling Ephesians 6:4 and Deuteronomy 6:7.

So, how do you use the Bible Time Guide? The Bible Time Guide is broken up by books of the Bible so that you can go through an entire book of the Bible as a family at your own pace. You simply open up the Bible Time Guide along with your Bible. You then read the Bible passage and follow the question prompts in the guide. You, as the leader, may desire to read the Bible Time Guide for that evening before starting the family discussion to review some of the "Parent's Help" if needed.

We've broken up the questions into three categories so that each time you use it, the children can: 1) Learn the Word 2) Apply the Word 3) Pray the Word. If you can't implement "Bible Time" every night of the week, will this guide still be helpful? Absolutely! The reason we designed this guide to be broken up by books of the Bible is so that you can go at your own

pace. If you can't get to every question for that night's passage, will this guide still be helpful? Absolutely! Every family is different, with children of different ages and maturity presenting different dynamics. You might need to break up one passage over several nights if necessary. And many of the questions have more than one right answer, so be encouraging when your children give good, biblical answers even if they don't exactly match the "Parent's Help" answer that's provided.

We've written this guide to be deep enough for a teenager to engage with, while still simple enough for young children to track with. Feel free to use this guide in a way that suits your family best. Remember, this is just a guide but you are the leader and raising children requires flexibility! Also, each Bible Time Guide starts with an overview of that book of the Bible to help set the context for you as the leader as well as for your family. You may choose to spend a night going through the overview with your family or simply dive into the daily guide.

We hope that this guide will accomplish several things: increase consistency, instruct the next generation, unite your family, grow your faith and minister to your heart as the leader, and glorify God through obedience and discipline as you seek Him in the Scriptures. We are prayerfully anticipating the fruit that will come from your discipline to implement this guide in your home. Be encouraged, lean in, trust the Lord, and be the guide that God has equipped you to be.

# The Book of Philippians Overview

Philippians is a letter written by the apostle Paul from a prison in Rome around the year 62 A.D. The letter was written to Christians in the city of Philippi, which was in Rome, to thank them for a financial gift. He also wrote to encourage them by letting them know that the gospel of Jesus Christ was going forth even though Paul was in prison. One central theme to this letter is Paul's joy. Even though Paul was in prison, and there were false teachers who didn't like him, he rejoiced about what Christ was doing.

# Philippians 1:1–11

## Understand the Word

1. In verse 6 Paul says, “He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” What do you think Paul is saying here? Why would this be encouraging for the Philippians?
  - **Parent’s Help:** The “Day of Jesus Christ” is the final salvation, reward, and glorification of believers. If we are saved then God will make us more like Jesus Christ throughout our life and ensure that we arrive at the day when we are with the Lord forever in perfection, which includes believers receiving a new glorified body (See 1 Cor. 15:51–53).
2. In verse 11, Paul says he wants his friends to be filled with the “fruit of righteousness.” Do you know what righteousness means?
  - **Parent’s Help:** It’s when you act in alignment with what God says is right. We can only be truly righteous if we are born again, having repented of our sins and put our trust in Jesus Christ and become a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17). As believers we obey what God says in the Bible. Even before we are saved, we can aim to obey God’s good and kind commandments for our lives.

## Apply the Word

1. In what ways do you want to live more righteously?
2. We see here that Paul is thankful for his friends in the church of Philippi. Who has God provided as a friend at church that you are thankful for?

3. What do you think makes a good friend?
4. Paul prays for his friends to love more and more with knowledge and discernment.

What prayers do you want to pray for your friends?

## Pray the Word

1. Pray through some of the prayers that your children identified during your discussion.
2. Lord, help us know the Bible better so that we can follow through and do what it says to be more righteous.
3. Lord, help all of us to love our friends like Jesus loved others. Please help us to be selfless and care for them more than we do ourselves.

# Philippians 1:12–18

## Understand the Word

1. In verses 12 through 14, we see Paul expressing that he was mistreated and imprisoned. Instead of complaining about these things, Paul seems to be thankful! Why does Paul say that he is grateful for his difficulty?
  - **Parent’s Help:** So that the gospel could spread throughout the imperial guard and his brothers in Christ could be bolder to speak the truth of the gospel!
2. In verses 15 through 18, Paul describes how different people are preaching the gospel for various reasons; some do it for good reasons and some do it for wrong reasons. The ones doing it for bad reasons probably didn’t like Paul for some reason. Instead of complaining about the people who were doing it for the wrong reasons, Paul is grateful again! Why do you think Paul doesn’t complain about the people who are preaching Christ out of “envy” or “rivalry,” as the Bible says?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Paul is okay if the other teachers don’t like him as long as they teach the real gospel of Jesus Christ!

## Apply the Word

1. Paul didn’t complain about his imprisonment because of how God was using it to spread the gospel. Is there anything in your life that you’re tempted to complain about or do complain about? In what ways could you see God using a difficult situation in your life to provide an opportunity to share the gospel?

2. Why do you think people are willing to listen to us more when we don't complain about the difficulties in our life?
3. Who wants to share the gospel in front of the family tonight?
  - **Parent's Help:** If no one does, then you share the gospel! And then encourage someone to repeat what you said.

### Pray the Word

1. Lord, I pray that You would give everyone in our family the Christ-like humility we see in Paul.
2. Lord, help our family trust that You will work all things together for good for those who have put their trust in Christ.
3. Lord, please give us the grace to forgive those who do us harm and trust the power of the gospel to save the lost.



# Philippians 1:19–26

## Understand the Word

1. Even though Paul is mature in the Lord, why do you think he is excited that the Philippians are praying for him?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Even the strongest Christian is still a sinner with a weak flesh that desperately needs help from the Lord.
2. What do you think the phrase “... to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” means?
  - **Parent’s Help:** In verses 22 through 24, Paul explains that there is nothing better than to be with Christ in Heaven after he departs from this life, but for now, Paul has work (fruitful labor) to do for the sake of Christ’s church. A Christian’s life should be all about Jesus Christ no matter what they are doing.

## Apply the Word

1. Although Paul wants to be with the Lord in Heaven, he chooses to stay and help the church grow in their faith and joy. Paul is sacrificing his desires for the benefit of others. Who, in your church, have you seen sacrifice for others well?
2. What’s one way that you can sacrifice your desires for someone else’s benefit this week?
3. Paul was confident that he would be with Christ if he died. How can you have that type of confidence?

## Pray the Word

1. Lord, please help everyone in our family live for Christ at all times.
2. Lord, will You give us each an opportunity to sacrifice our desires for someone else's benefit this week?
3. Lord, help us always remember how short this life is and how amazing eternity with Christ will be if we put our trust in Him!

# Philippians 1:27–30

## Understand the Word

1. Paul encourages the Philippians to “let their manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.” How do we know what type of behavior is considered worthy?
  - **Parent’s Help:** The Bible tells us what kind of behavior is worthy!
2. What does Paul mean when he says “This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation,” in verse 28?
  - **Parent’s Help:** When a Christian willingly suffers without being terrified by their enemy it is a sign of both salvation and judgment. The peaceful sufferer shows evidence of their salvation when they fear God more than man. The one who is persecuting is shown that they have no power over the soul and that judgment is coming if they don’t repent.

## Apply the Word

1. We discussed that a “manner of life worthy of the gospel of Christ” is a life that is characterized by obedience to God’s Word. What are some ways that you can behave in obedience to the Bible tomorrow?
2. Some people don’t like the gospel of Christ, and we would say that they “oppose” it. Paul tells the Philippians (and us) to not be frightened by those who oppose the gospel of Christ. How do you think we can be brave and not afraid of people who don’t like what we believe about the Bible?

3. Sometimes God allows Christians to suffer. But God, being perfectly loving, uses our suffering to make us more like Jesus Christ! Let's read Romans 8:28–29 for some encouragement!

*28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

If we love God, we can go through suffering with joy and peace because we know that He uses those hard times for our good (becoming more like Jesus). When have you had a hard time, but you've seen God work through it to help you be more like Jesus?

### Pray the Word

1. Lord, help our family to live in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ.
2. Lord, we pray for our family to have peace, joy, and confidence even if the world is hostile to what the Bible teaches.
3. Lord, we pray for our unsaved neighbors and friends that they would be encouraged by the steadfast faith of our family regardless of our circumstances.

# Philippians 2:1-4

## Understand the Word

1. Paul tells the Philippians that it will make him happy, or joyful, if they are of the same mind, having the same love. What do you think this means?
  - **Parent's Help:** He wants them to have a unity that comes from their shared love for Christ!
2. Paul says, "but in humility count others more significant than yourselves." Can you think of an example of humility that you have seen in someone in your family?
3. How can we know what it looks like to "look to the interest of others"? How did Jesus Christ do this?
  - **Parent's Help:** We can: 1) See what our friends need! 2) Get to know our friend's preferences! 3) Ask our friends what they desire!

## Apply the Word

1. What do you think it means to do something from selfish ambition or conceit? What are some ways that you're tempted to be selfish with your siblings and friends?
2. What are some real-life ways that you can count others as more significant than yourself?
  - **Parent's Help:** Try to get your kids to think about simple ways they can put their siblings and friends ahead of themselves, even losing out for the sake of others.

## Pray the Word

1. Lord, I pray that You would make our kids aware of any wrong desires of their hearts.
2. Lord, help each of us to see how we can "count others as more significant than ourselves."
3. Lord, please help our family to look to the interest of others to show our neighbors, family, and friends the love of Jesus Christ.

# Philippians 2:5–11

## Understand the Word

1. Before Christ was born as a man, where was He?
  - **Parent's Help:** Christ was and is eternally God in all glory, existing forever with no beginning. He was and is a distinct person, yet completely one in essence with God the Father and the Holy Spirit.
2. How humble do you think Christ was to empty Himself and become a man, leaving His glorious throne?
3. Will everyone bow down to Jesus and confess that He is Lord someday? Why is it important to worship Jesus now and not wait until you're forced to?
  - **Parent's Help:** Only through repentance and faith can we truly worship Jesus here and now as a new creation.

## Apply the Word

1. Even though Jesus was still God while He was on earth He was obedient to the Father even to the point of dying on the cross. How can you be obedient to God tomorrow?
  - **Parent's Help:** Ephesians 6:1 says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." So all children can obey God by obeying their parents.
2. What is one way you humble yourself and serve others tomorrow even if you have to give something up?

## Pray the Word

1. Jesus thank You for humbling Yourself and coming to this Earth as a man to live a perfect life and die on the cross to pay for our sins.
2. Lord, help our whole family to have a deeper appreciation for Christ's sacrifice.
3. God, I pray that You will save our children, that You will do a mighty work of salvation in their hearts so that they can bend their knee to Christ now and not be forced to later.
4. Pray for God to help your kids serve others tomorrow (especially relating to their answers when discussing how to apply the Word).



# Philippians 2:12–18

## Understand the Word

1. In verse 12, Paul tells the Philippians to “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.” What does he mean when he says this?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Paul is not talking about us contributing to our own salvation through works (cf. Rom. 3:21–24; Eph. 2:8, 9). This phrase Paul uses speaks to Christians living a life of obedience that results in ongoing “sanctification” which is the process of Christians becoming more like Christ over time. This is to be done with “fear and trembling” or a reverence and respect for God and His law (rules).
2. What does Paul mean by “word of life”?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Paul is referring to the Gospel.
3. Why do you think Paul calls the Gospel the “word of life?” Who thinks they can share the Gospel with the family tonight?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Applaud any part of the Gospel presentation that is shared correctly! Then, after everyone has had a chance that wants to share, fill in the gaps with anything missing.

## Apply the Word

1. Paul says “Do all things without grumbling or disputing.” How might you be tempted to grumble and dispute every day?

- **Parent's Help:** Complaining and arguing may be more relatable words that mean the same thing.
2. A lot of people in this world grumble and dispute without any sense of conviction. If you choose not to grumble and dispute, how might that help you stand out among other kids who do? Imagine if someone asked you, "Why don't you complain that much?" How might you answer them?
  3. Paul says, "Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all." Paul is willing to sacrifice his comfort to help the Philippian church grow to be more like Jesus. How can you sacrifice to love those around you more than yourself?

### Pray the Word

1. Lord, help our whole family avoid grumbling and disputing.
2. Lord, please help our family stand out as a light in this world, drawing others in to hear the gospel message!
3. Lord, help those who are saved in our family to be obedient to the Word of God so that they can work out their salvation with fear and trembling.
4. Lord, I pray for the salvation of our children, that they would turn from their sin and put their trust in Jesus Christ.

# Philippians 2:19–30

## Understand the Word

1. Paul was sending Timothy to help the Philippians. What do you think made Timothy such a trustworthy student for Paul?
  - **Parent’s Help:** One of the chief characteristics of Timothy was that he sought Christ’s interests above his own.
2. Paul talks about also sending Epaphroditus and asks the Philippians to “receive him in the Lord with all joy.” What do you think it looks like to receive someone in the Lord with all joy?
  - **Parent’s Help:** One way could be to honor them! The very next words from Paul are “honor such men.” Perhaps you can start a discussion about why it’s appropriate to honor certain people of the faith and what makes someone honorable.
3. Even though Paul can’t see the Philippians right away, what are some ways that he can love his friends at Philippi in the meantime?
  - **Parent’s Help:** One way that he is helping them is by sending faithful men like Timothy and Epaphroditus in his place!

## Apply the Word

1. Epaphroditus risked his life to serve Paul. How grateful would you be if someone risked their life to serve you?

2. Who is someone in your church that you would say is trustworthy and honorable? What characteristics can you list off that make this case?
  - **Parent's Help:** Perhaps the children can write an encouraging letter to this person, thanking them for their faithful service to the church!
3. Does your family have any friends who are Christians living far away? How can you encourage them?

### Pray the Word

1. Lord, help each one of us to be trustworthy like Timothy.
2. Lord, please give our family the strength to sacrifice for others like Epaphroditus.
3. Lord, help our family take the time and energy to pray for our extended family or fellow believers who are far away, and we can't see every day.
4. Lord, we pray that everyone in our family will have strong godly friendships!

# Philippians 3:1–6

## Understand the Word

1. When Paul refers to the fact that “we put no confidence in the flesh,” he means that we don’t try to earn our salvation or try hard to earn favor with God. What is the only way that we can have a confident relationship with God?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Through Jesus Christ alone can we have a confident relationship with God the Father! Jesus paid for our sins through His death and He overcame death through His resurrection. When we repent of our sins and put our trust in Him and not ourselves we can be saved from our sin and have everlasting life with Him in Heaven!
2. What does Paul mean when he says to “look out for the dogs?”
  - **Parent’s Help:** When Paul wrote this dogs were considered dirty animals who roamed the streets. These dogs were dangerous and out of control. Paul is calling the false teachers of the day “dogs” because they were dangerous and out of control. The false teachers were claiming that circumcision was necessary for salvation.

## Apply the Word

1. What are some ways that you can “rejoice in the Lord” this week?
2. Like we talked about earlier, when Paul says, “look out for the dogs,” he’s talking about false teachers, men who were preaching a different gospel than the Bible. Why is it important to look out for people who teach the wrong things about the Bible?

3. Paul lists off quite a few things about himself that would sound pretty impressive to the Jewish leaders during the time of Jesus. What are you good at? Do you think you do those things in your strength or in the strength of the Lord?
  - **Parent's Help:** Perhaps discuss how God made their hands, feet, brains, lungs, etc., anything that would allow them to do such tasks.

### Pray the Word

1. Lord, please help each of our children understand what the Bible says so that they can identify false teaching when it's taught.
2. Lord, we pray that each of our children will realize that anything good that comes from their lives is because of God's grace!
3. Lord, please save our children, help them to see their sin as an offense to Your holiness, and draw their hearts to repent and put their trust in Christ and not their own effort.

# Philippians 3:7–11

## Understand the Word

1. Paul reminds us that when we place our trust in Christ we then are made righteous because of His righteousness and not by anything we do on our own. Do you know what righteousness means? Is it possible to be righteous apart from Christ?
  - **Parent's Help:** Being righteous means we are morally right and free from the guilt of sin. It may be helpful to read Romans 3:9–12 and 2 Corinthians 5:21.
2. Paul says, “not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ.” What are some things that Christians might do to try to obtain a “righteousness of their own”?

## Apply the Word

1. Share something that is really valuable to you. Even though what you mentioned is valuable, do you think it's worth more than Christ? Why is Christ so valuable?
2. Those who put their trust in Christ will share in the sufferings of Christ as well. How did the world treat Jesus when He came? Are there things that the world doesn't like about the Bible and Christians? What will bring us peace and strength if we also experience hard things because we're Christian?
  - **Parent's Help:** It may be helpful to read 2 Corinthians 1:5.

## Pray the Word

1. Lord, please help each person in our family count Christ as more important than our most valuable earthly treasures.
2. Lord, we pray for the strength and peace needed to endure hard times.
3. Lord, help us keep our focus on Jesus and His truth when the world tries to twist what the Bible says to mean something that it doesn't.



# Philippians 3:12–16

## Understand the Word

1. Is anyone perfect here on Earth, even mature Christians like Paul? When does the Bible say that Christians will be made perfect?
  - **Parent's Help:** It may be helpful to read Philippians 3:20–21.
2. Paul says, “forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead.” Do you remember another Bible story where someone looks back at their old life and turns into a pillar of salt? Why is it so important to look ahead and focus on what Jesus wants us to do?
  - It may be helpful to turn to Genesis 19, specifically verse 26, to refresh everyone's memory regarding the story of Lot's wife.
3. Why do you think it was so important for Paul to urge the Philippians to keep their focus on Christ?
  - **Parent's Help:** This may be a good time to remind them about what you have learned so far!

## Apply the Word

1. Think of a hard time in your life. It could be something that happened recently or sometime in the past. Did it make things easier to focus on Jesus rather than your pain? How can you focus on Jesus more the next time you have a hard time?
2. What is the purpose of your life? When we consider why God created us, how should this truth affect what we think about and do all day long?

- **Parent's Help:** Each of us was created to glorify God. It may help to turn to Isaiah 43:6-7 or 2 Corinthians 5:9.

## Pray the Word

1. Lord, we pray that You will help everyone in the family to focus less on themselves and more on Jesus Christ.
2. Lord, please help our family know the Bible well to be obedient to what it says and not be guided solely by our emotions.
3. Lord, help our family focus less on circumstances and more on who Jesus is and how He has promised to provide.
4. Lord, we pray that you will help us through hard times and that you will help us keep our focus on You alone for strength and comfort.

# Philippians 3:17–21

## Understand the Word

1. When Paul says, “join in imitating me,” what do you think he means? Who does Paul ultimately want us to behave like?
2. Paul warns the Philippians to keep their eyes on those who are setting a good example. Why do you think it’s important to keep our eyes focused on those who live their life like Jesus?
  - **Parent’s Help:** So we don’t walk as enemies of Christ and give in to our fleshly desires! (vv. 18b–19)
3. Is this Earth where we will spend the rest of eternity?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Christians will spend eternity in the presence of God (Rev. 21:1–4), while unbelievers will spend eternity in the like of fire (Rev. 20:11–15) completely separated from God.

## Apply the Word

1. Did you know that if we are saved by Jesus, we will live forever with God on a new Earth (See Revelation 21), and we’ll have perfect bodies? How might your life be different if you had a new body?
2. When Paul speaks about the enemies of Christ he says that “their god is their belly.” What he means is that they are driven by their selfish appetites or desires. What kind of desires do you have that God wants you to say “no” to?

## Pray the Word

1. Pray for the Lord to give your children strength to say “no” to the desires they listed off earlier.
2. Lord, help us surround ourselves with people who live like Jesus and are good examples of how to live the Christian life so that we don't get distracted by sin.
3. Lord, help us to think about Heaven according to how the Bible describes it! Please help us to get excited and desire to be there with You forever.
4. Lord, give us the courage and strength to live for Jesus in this life, knowing that the difficulties of this world are only temporary, and we will live with You forever in a perfect world with a perfect body if we have placed our trust in Jesus Christ.

# Philippians 4:1–7

## Understand the Word

1. Paul asks two women to “agree in the Lord.” What do you think it means to “agree in the Lord”?
2. Paul tells us not to be anxious about anything, and then he tells us how that’s possible.

What does Paul say will result in us having a peace that surpasses all understanding?

- **Parent’s Help:** Paul says that prayer with a thankful heart will result in peace. This might be a good opportunity to explain anxiety to your children if they don’t know what it is.

## Apply the Word

1. We discussed what it means to “agree in the Lord” earlier. How can you seek to have unity with your siblings or friends this week?
2. When Paul says, “Rejoice in the Lord always,” he means that we should rejoice all of the time, no matter what our circumstances are like. When is it easy for you to rejoice? When is it hard for you to rejoice?
3. Remember that we talked about thankful prayer earlier. What are some things that you can thank God for in prayer?

## Pray the Word

1. Spend time thanking God for the things that your children identified that they can be thankful for.

2. Lord, please help us to “agree in the Lord” with other Christians that You’ve put in our lives.
3. Lord, help us always rejoice even when we’re in a difficult situation because we trust You and trust Your promises.
4. Lord, help us to all be diligent in prayer. Help us to pray to You often with a thankful heart so that Your peace will guard our hearts and minds against anxiety and sinful thoughts and behavior.

# Philippians 4:8–9

## Understand the Word

1. Paul lists off several things that we should think about here.
  - How do we know what is “true”?
    - **Parent’s Help:** We know that anything found in Scripture is true.
  - How do we know what is “honorable”?
    - **Parent’s Help:** Honorable things are those things that bring reverence and respect to the name of the Lord.
  - How do we know what is “just”?
    - **Parent’s Help:** Just things are those that are “right” and align with God’s holy standard.
  - How do we know what is “pure”?
    - **Parent’s Help:** Pure things are morally clean and undefiled.
  - How do we know what is “lovely”?
    - **Parent’s Help:** Things that are lovely are things that are gracious or grace-filled and pleasing to the Lord.
  - How do we know what is “commendable”?
    - **Parent’s Help:** Things that are commendable are things that are respectable; like treating others with kindness and courtesy.
  - How do we know what is “excellent”?
    - **Parent’s Help:** Things that are excellent are things that are orderly and godly.

- How do we know what is “worthy of praise”?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Things that are worthy of praise are things that are faithful to the tasks that Jesus Christ has given us, like the Great Commission.

## Apply the Word

1. (Say to the family:) “I’m going to read Paul’s list off again and I want you to picture something that comes to mind. Then we’ll all share what we thought of as a family.”
  - **Parent’s Help:** Read the verses above again, then ask: “What came to mind as I read out loud?”
2. How do you get good at something? Paul tells the Philippians to “practice these things” that they have learned from Paul. How can you make a practice of thinking about the things that Paul has listed off here?
  - **Parent’s Help:** If your kids are in a sport or learning an instrument, use those things as an example of how to get good at something through practice.

## Pray the Word

1. Lord, help each of us think about the things that Paul has listed off and not spend time thinking about things that aren’t profitable.
2. Lord, I pray that You would help us to practice thinking in this way, so much that it would become a habit, and we would experience the peace that Paul speaks about in this passage.



3. Lord, please help our family focus on who You are and not the scary or dark things of this world. We want to fill our minds with the things of the Bible and the holy things that point us back to You and not our sin.

# Philippians 4:10–13

## Understand the Word

1. In Verse 13, Paul says, “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” What does he mean by “all things”?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Paul is speaking about having much or having little when he refers to “all things”. Many athletes and business people use this verse in wrong ways to convey that they can achieve worldly success “through Him who strengthens me.”
2. Paul speaks of the Philippians’ concern for him because they had supported his missionary efforts financially in the past. Do you know any missionaries?
  - **Parent’s Help:** Talk about your church’s missionary partner(s) and get out a map to show the kids where those missionaries are located. Have a discussion as to why it’s so important to share the Gospel throughout the entire world.

## Apply the Word

1. Paul is rejoicing because the Philippians were concerned for him because they loved him. Can you think of someone concerned for you, someone who is looking out for your needs? How does it feel to know that you have someone who wants to take care of you? Will God always take care of you?
2. Have you ever had to go without something that you really wanted or felt you needed? What did that feel like at that moment? How can we all grow to be more content no matter what we have or don’t have?

- **Parent's Help:** You may have to define what content means for the younger ones.

## Pray the Word

1. Lord, helps us to care for the needs of others and encourage them just as Paul did for others and the Philippians did for Paul! Help us to see who those people are in our life that we can love like Jesus.
2. Lord, please help us trust You when things don't go the way we want them to. Help us have peace because we know that You are always in control even when things feel uncomfortable.
3. Lord, help us grow in contentment so that we can always be ready to serve You no matter what is going on around us!

# Philippians 4:14–23

## Understand the Word

1. Who is the One who ultimately provides everything that we need?
  - **Parent's Help:** Read Matthew 6:25–34 and discuss God's promise to provide.
2. Thinking back through the entire study of the book of Philippians, what things do you remember learning about the most?

## Apply the Word

1. Paul could rely on the Philippians to share in his trouble. Do you have any friends like that? Do you have friends who can count on you like this?
2. Remembering the previous discussion about Matthew 6:25–34, how can you trust God more to provide for what you need?
3. When we receive gifts from others, who should we thank?
  - **Parent's Help:** This is somewhat of a trick question because we should thank both God and the person who gave the gift since God provided through their generous obedience.

## Pray the Word

1. Lord, help us to be grateful for the way that others are kind to us.
2. Lord, help us be kind to others by providing for their needs even when it costs us money or time.

3. Lord, help us always thank You whenever we receive the things we need and even sometimes the things we want!
4. Lord, thank You for the book of Philippians and all that we have learned from it. Please help our family to remember what we have learned and apply it to our lives!