

A People of the Book
8-Year Curriculum
Year 8, Quarter 1

A Study of
Selected Texts from

Philippians,
Colossians,
Philemon, Jude

Ron Harlow

Introduction

This document is to be used as a discussion guide for our class discussion rather than an exhaustive study guide that could be used for personal study. The value will not be in the words on these pages, rather the discussion of these biblical texts with other brothers and sisters in class. I look forward to leading that discussion and to your active participation.

Ron.

Philippians-Introduction

Text: Philippians 1: 1-30

Review of the text:

1. To whom was the book written? (v.1)
2. Where was Paul as he wrote this letter?
3. What “things” happened to him (v.12)?
4. What does it mean to “preach Christ even from envy and strife”? (v. 15)
5. V.21.....to live is Christ and _____?
6. What did Paul admonish the Philippians to do in v. 27?

Thought Questions

1. What are some of the prayer “themes” that Paul exhibited in vs. 3-11?
2. How was Paul able to take a bad situation (Jail) and turn it into a positive?
 - a. Romans 8: 28

3. What lessons can we learn from Paul's attitude in v. 18?

4. Should we be thankful if the Gospel is preached even if certain worship practices go against our beliefs/traditions?

5. What does v. 21 mean?

6. What lessons can be learned from Paul's attitude? (v. 23-26)

7. Explain v. 28.

Lessons 2 & 3

Text: Philippians 2: 1-30

Review of the text:

1. What is the theme of vs. 1-4?
2. Who started out equal to God? (v. 6)
3. What will every tongue confess? (v. 11)
4. How are we to work out our own salvation? (v. 12)
5. What are we commanded not to do? (v. 14)
6. Which fellow worker of Paul's was very sick?

Thought Questions

1. What trait/characteristic is Paul teaching in v. 1-2?
2. What does v. 2 mean? Is it strictly matters of doctrine or opinion too?
3. How can humility produce unity?
 - a. Why is unity so important?
 - b. Isn't diversity good too? (Romans 12-Diversity in gifts)

Text: Philippians 3: 1-21

Review of the text:

1. Who are the “dogs”? (v. 2)
2. What is “the mutilation”? (v. 2)
3. What is the significance of Paul’s “resume”? (v. 5-6)
4. Where is our citizenship? (v. 20)

Thought Questions

1. What does it mean to have “confidence in the flesh”?
 - a. How can this happen to us today?
 - b. How do we prevent it?
2. Explain/discuss vs. 7-11.

3. V. 12-14

- a. What things did Paul need to forget?

- b. What are some things that we might need to forget?

- c. What is the danger in not forgetting?

- d. What types of goals should we have as Christians?

4. V. 19 What does it mean to have your belly as your god?

Lessons 5 & 6

Text: Philippians 4: 1-23

Review of the text:

1. Who was having a dispute in Philippi? (v. 2)
2. What is one result/benefit of prayer? (v6)
3. Who provides the strength to do all things? (v. 13)

Thought Questions

1. V. 3.....”help these women....” If we had 2 or more members in a dispute how should we “help them”?
2. V. 4 “Rejoice in the Lord always...” Does this mean I should be happy all the time?
3. How can I rejoice when life gets tough?

4. What do you think of when you think of “Gentleness”? (v. 5) Why is this a trait Paul wants us to have?

5. Is it a sin to worry? (v. 6) What other verses in the Bible discuss worry? What is Paul’s answer to worry?

6. What is the value in your life to meditating on these things? (v. 8 ff) What can happen if you don’t?

7. How did Paul learn contentment? (v. 11-12) Is it a sin to be discontented?

8. Is v. 13 a randomly placed verse or is it connected to something else in chapter 4?

9. Explain/discuss v. 17.

Colossians-Introduction

Text: Colossians 1: 1-29

Review of the text:

1. Who wrote the book of Colossians? (v. 1)
2. To whom was it written? (v. 2)
3. From whom did the Colossians learn of the grace of God in truth? (v. 7)
4. From what did Christ deliver us? (v. 13)
5. Who created all things? (v. 16)
6. What dwells in Christ? (v. 19)

Thought Questions

1. What's the difference between knowledge, wisdom and spiritual understanding? (v. 9-10)
2. What is the significance of vs. 15-18?

Lesson 8

Text: Colossians 2: 1-23

Review of the text:

1. Paul warned us not to be cheated by _____ (v. 8)
2. Christ is the head of what? (v. 10)
3. What did Christ nail to the cross? (v. 14)
4. Who/what are the “principalities and powers”? (v. 15)

Thought Questions

1. Discuss vs. 6-7.
2. Discuss the significance of vs. 11-15.
3. What does Paul mean in vs. 16-17? Is there a modern day equivalent?

4. Explore the analogy in v. 19.

5. Discuss vs. 20-23.

Lessons 9 & 10

Text: Colossians 3: 1-25

Review of the text:

1. On what should we set our minds? (v. 2)
2. On whom will the wrath of God come? (v. 6)
3. What should rule in our hearts? (v. 15)
4. What does Paul command wives to do? (v. 18)
5. What does Paul command husbands to do? (v. 19)
6. What does Paul command children to do? (v. 20)
7. What does Paul command fathers to do? (v. 21)
8. What does Paul command bondservants to do? (v. 22)

Lesson 11

Text: Colossians 4: 1-18

Review of the text:

1. Why should masters be fair to their slaves? (v. 1)
2. How should we walk toward those who are outside? (v. 5)

Thought Questions

1. Is there a modern day application to v. 1?
2. What is the “mystery of Christ”?
3. What does it mean to “redeem the time”? (v. 5)
4. How do we implement v. 6 in our lives? What are the benefits?

Philemon-Introduction

Text: Philemon 1: 1-25

Review of the text:

1. Who was Philemon?
2. Who was Onesimus?
3. What is Paul's relationship to both men?
4. Why was Paul sending Onesimus back to Philemon?
5. Why was that considered dangerous?
6. What did Paul offer Philemon to help ease the situation?
7. What rights did Philemon have?

Thought Questions

1. What Christian principles are discussed in this book?
2. Are there times that as Christians we have the legal right to do something, but a moral obligation to do otherwise?
 - a. Examples?
3. Why didn't Paul advocate an end to slavery?
4. Do we need to forgive a brother's past even to the point of forgiving debts?

Jude-Introduction

Text: Jude 1: 1-25

Review of the text:

1. Who was the author?
2. What did he call himself? (v. 1)
3. To whom did he write the letter?
4. What did he exhort them to do in v. 3?
5. What did he remind them in v. 5?

Thought Questions

1. What does it mean to “contend earnestly for the faith”? (v. 3) How do we do that today?
2. Discuss v. 4.
3. How can our words/tongues be used for good or evil? (vs. 16ff)

Class Summary

A People of the Book

8-Year Curriculum

	January - March	April - June	July - September	October - December
2007	<i>Matthew</i>	<i>Genesis</i>	<i>Galatians & Ephesians</i>	<i>Isaiah</i>
2008	<i>Exodus</i>	<i>I & II Timothy, Titus</i>	<i>Hebrews</i>	<i>Minor Prophets I (Hosea-Obadiah)</i>
2009	<i>Mark</i>	<i>Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy</i>	<i>Romans</i>	<i>Jeremiah & Lamentations</i>
2010	<i>I & II Thessalonians</i>	<i>Joshua, Judges, Ruth</i>	<i>James, I & II Peter</i>	<i>Minor Prophets II (Jonah-Habakkuk)</i>
2011	<i>Luke</i>	<i>I & II Samuel</i>	<i>I Corinthians</i>	<i>Daniel</i>
2012	<i>Acts</i>	<i>Special Study: The Foundations (Psalm 11:3)</i>	<i>Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther</i>	<i>Minor Prophets III (Zephaniah-Malachi)</i>
2013	<i>Gospel of John, I, II, & III John</i>	<i>Job</i>	<i>Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon</i>	<i>Psalms</i>
2014	<i>Philippians, Colossians, Philemon & Jude</i>	<i>Kings & Chronicles</i>	<i>Revelation</i>	<i>Ezekiel</i>
2015	<i>II Corinthians</i>			

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Summit Church of Christ
 6015 Alexandria Pike
 Cold Spring, KY 41076
 (859) 635-1141
www.summitchurchofchrist.org