

## 1. Start with humility

**Philippians 1:1** Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus,  
to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi,  
including the overseers and deacons:

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## 2. Thank God for each other with joyful prayer

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,

<sup>4</sup>always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all,

<sup>5</sup>in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.

<sup>6</sup>For I am confident of this very thing,

that He who began a good work in you will perfect it  
until the day of Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup>For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all,  
because I have you in my heart,

since

both in my imprisonment

and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel,

you all are partakers of grace with me.

<sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for you all  
with the affection of Christ Jesus.

## 3. Pray for discerning love

<sup>9</sup>And this I pray, that your love may abound  
still more and more

in real knowledge and all discernment,

<sup>10</sup>so that you may approve the things that are excellent,

in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ;

<sup>11</sup>having been filled with the fruit of righteousness

which *comes* through Jesus Christ,

to the glory and praise of God.

## 4. Rejoice in the progress of the gospel

<sup>12</sup>Now I want you to know, brethren,

that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel,

<sup>13</sup>so that my imprisonment in *the cause of* Christ has become well known

throughout the whole praetorian guard

and to everyone else,

<sup>14</sup>and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord

because of my imprisonment,

have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.

<sup>15</sup>Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife,  
but some also from good will;

<sup>16</sup>the latter *do it* out of love,  
knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel;

<sup>17</sup>the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition,  
rather than from pure motives,  
thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment.

<sup>18</sup>What then?

Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed;  
and in this I rejoice, yes, and I will rejoice.

## 5. Focus on exalting Christ

<sup>19</sup>For I know that this shall turn out for my deliverance  
through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,  
<sup>20</sup>according to my earnest expectation and hope,  
that I shall not be put to shame in anything,  
but *that* with all boldness, Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted  
in my body,  
whether by life or by death.

<sup>21</sup>For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

## 6. Labor for the progress and joy of others

<sup>22</sup>But  
if *I am* to live *on* in the flesh,  
this *will mean* fruitful labor for me;  
and I do not know which to choose.

<sup>23</sup>But I am hard-pressed from both *directions*,  
having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for *that* is very much better;  
<sup>24</sup>yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake.

<sup>25</sup>And convinced of this,  
I know that I shall remain and continue with you all  
for your progress and joy in the faith,

<sup>26</sup> so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus  
through my coming to you again.

## 7. Strive for a unity worthy of the gospel

<sup>27</sup>Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ;  
so that  
whether I come and see you or remain absent,  
I may hear of you that you are standing firm  
in one spirit,  
with one mind

striving together for the faith of the gospel;

<sup>28</sup>in no way alarmed by *your* opponents—

which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you,  
and that *too*, from God.

<sup>29</sup>For to you it has been granted

for Christ's sake,

not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

<sup>30</sup>experiencing the same conflict

which you saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

## 8. Have Jesus' attitude

2 If therefore there is any encouragement in Christ,  
if there is any consolation of love,  
if there is any fellowship of the Spirit,  
if any affection and compassion,

<sup>2</sup>make my joy complete

by being of the same mind,

maintaining the same love,

united in spirit,

intent on one purpose.

<sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit,  
but

with humility of mind

let each of you regard one another as more important than himself;

<sup>4</sup>do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests,  
but also for the interests of others.

<sup>5</sup>Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who,

although He existed in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant,  
*and* being made in the likeness of men.

<sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man,

He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore also God highly exalted Him,  
and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.