# PHILIPPIANS

# **Transformed By Christ (2:12-30)**

Questions: Week Four

## Shining as Stars - Philippians 2:12-18<sup>1</sup>

Topics: <u>Arguments, Believers, Complaining, God, Jesus Christ, Joy, Obedience, People, Sacrifice, Salvation, Serving, Sin, Witnessing, Work</u>

#### Open It

- 1. Would you prefer to explore the universe aboard a spacecraft or looking through a powerful telescope? Why?
- 2. What do you most enjoy about the nighttime sky?
- 3. What is the most frequent complaint you hear?
- 4. \*Who pointed the way for you in your first job?

#### **Explore It**

- 5. \*What did the Philippian Christians need to obey? (2:12)
- 6. What were the Philippian believers to work out? (2:12-13)
- 7. How would God help the Philippians obey Him? (2:12-13)
- 8. What instructions did Paul give in relation to everyday Christian living? (2:14-16)
- 9. \*Why were the Philippians not shining "like stars" in their world? (2:14-16)
- 10. Why did the Philippian assembly need to show a united front to unbelievers? (2:14-16)
- 11. What would enable Paul to boast about the Philippians? (2:14-16)
- 12. Whose honor was Paul concerned about? (2:16)
- 13. \*How did Paul view his own life? (2:17)
- 14. How did Paul view the faith of the Philippian believers? (2:17)
- 15. What did Paul want his friends at Philippi to experience? (2:18)

<sup>1.</sup> Adult Questions for LESSONMaker, (Austin, TX: Wordsearch, 1992), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "Shining as Stars - Philippians 2:12-18".

#### Get It

- 16. What does it mean "to work out your salvation with fear and trembling"?
- 17. What do you tend to complain and argue about?
- 18. \*What godly qualities make Christians "shine like stars"?
- 19. \*How does shining for Christ encourage others to be drawn to Him?
- 20. What Christian leader has personally invested in your growth as a follower of Christ?
- 21. How can you help new believers "shine like stars" for God's kingdom?

#### **Apply It**

- 22. In what situations this week do you need to make a conscious effort not to complain or argue?
- 23. \*Before whom do you want to shine in your place of work or neighborhood? In what ways can you do so?
- 24. What sacrifices can you make for the sake of others today?

## **Timothy and Epaphroditus - Philippians 2:19-30**<sup>2</sup>

Topics: <u>Church</u>, <u>Encouragement</u>, <u>God</u>, <u>Honor</u>, <u>Jesus Christ</u>, <u>Partnerships</u>, <u>Risk</u>, <u>Sacrifice</u>, <u>Sickness</u>

#### Open It

- 1. \*When was the last time you gave a character reference for a friend?
- 2. If close friends were to talk about you behind your back, what would they say?

#### **Explore It**

- 3. Why did Paul plan to send Timothy to the Philippians? (2:19)
- 4. \*What was Paul's opinion of Timothy? (2:20)
- 5. What was Timothy's relationship with the church at Philippi? (2:20)
- 6. \*In Paul's view, why did Timothy stand out? (2:21-22)
- 7. When would Paul send Timothy to the Philippians? (2:23)
- 8. Why was Paul confident that he would revisit the believers at Philippi? (2:24)
- 9. Who was Epaphroditus? (2:25)
- 10. Why did the Philippians send Epaphroditus to Paul? (2:25)
- 11. How did Epaphroditus feel about his friends in Philippi? (2:26)
- 12. What happened to Epaphroditus? (2:26-27)
- 13. How did God spare Paul tremendous sorrow? (2:27)
- 14. How did Paul demonstrate his selflessness? (2:28)
- 15. \*How were the Philippians told to welcome home Epaphroditus? (2:29-30)
- 16. Why were the Philippians told to honor their messenger? (2:30)

<sup>2.</sup> Adult Questions for LESSONMaker, (Austin, TX: Wordsearch, 1992), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "Timothy and Epaphroditus - Philippians 2:19-30".

#### Get It

- 17. \*Among your circle of Christian friends, for whom do you have the highest regard? Why?
- 18. Why could Paul count on Timothy and Epaphroditus?
- 19. What reputation do you have in your church?
- 20. \*In what ways have you proved to be a reliable servant of God?
- 21. What risks are you willing to take on behalf of other Christians?
- 22. In what ways can you be God's "courier" to others?

#### **Apply It**

- 23. \*How can you be a model of humility and service to other Christians this week?
- 24. This week, how can you look out for the interests of the Lord rather than your own interests?