

Philippians

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Questions for Philippians 3:12-16

1. How does it make you feel to know that the Apostle Paul doesn't have it all together when it comes to following Christ?
2. When I say, "Christianity is a journey" what am I trying to communicate?
3. Where do you consider yourself along this journey? (circle one)

At the beginning



Off the path



Moving slowly but moving



Somewhere in the middle



Running strong with my eye on the goal



Darn near perfection



4. What do you think Paul considers the goal when he says, "I press on toward the goal?"
5. What do you think Paul means by "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal...?"

6. What are the past failures or troubles that you keep “looking back” at that you’ve been forgiven of and need to move forward?

7. Paul encourages Christians to keep focused on the goal and to stay on the right track. What will it take in your life to respond this way?

8. Why do you think Paul encourages Christians to keep track of or stick together with other Christians who are running the same course?

9. Who are some Christian friends running their faith toward the goal?

Questions for Philippians 3:17-19

1. According to verse 18, how would you describe today’s “enemies of the cross of Christ?”

2. Think of some friends that have chosen other goals and try to get you to “run” with them. What do you do when this happens?

3. What is the final result of living life as “enemies of the cross of Christ?”

4. Reread Philippians 3:12-19 and summarize the passages in one sentence.

What is one truth you've learned from lesson seven? How can you apply this truth to your life?



Questions for Philippians 3:20-21

1. Paul says that Christians have a different citizenship. What do you think he means by this?
[For further study on our citizenship see John 17:14-16; 1 Cor. 7:29-31; 2 Cor. 5:18-21; 1 Pet. 2:11.]

2. When you think about yourself as a “citizen of Heaven” how does it make you feel?

3. Should a heavenly citizenship affect your behavior, priorities, attitude, relationships, and goals? If yes, how are they affected?

4. What will happen when Jesus returns?

[For further study on bodily transformation see 1 Cor. 15:12-58.]

Questions for Philippians 4:1-3

1. When it comes standing “firm in the Lord,” are you more on track this year than you were last year? Why or why not?

2. Paul is becoming specific in some of the things he taught earlier (2:2) when he addressed two women in the church who seem to be in conflict. Who are these two women? Why doesn't God want Christians holding grudges?

3. When you're in conflict with another Christian, whose responsibility is it to reconcile the conflict?

4. Paul encourages a "loyal yokefellow" (a guy actually named Syzygus...WOW!) to help them resolve conflict. When is it appropriate to ask for help in resolving conflict?

Questions for Philippians 4:4-9

1. List three specific ways you can celebrate God every day:

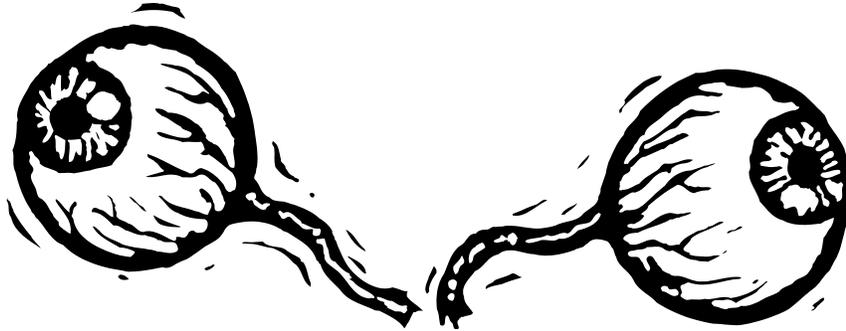
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2. List some things you've been worrying about lately.

3. How does prayer help you when you worry?



4. I've heard before that the human mind can't focus on two things at once. If that is true, when you think about God and pray to him, you'll block out your worries until your focus changes again. What qualities of God can you think about when you're worrying?



5. It seems as though Paul knew the importance of filling one's mind with good things. What are we to fill our minds with?

6. List ten things that are worthy of praise:

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 6. |
| 2. | 7. |
| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

7. Spend a few minutes and ask God to help you replace your worries you listed earlier with things worthy of praise.

8. In the NCV translation, verse 8 reads like this:

“Brothers and sisters, think about the things that are good and worthy of praise. Think about the things that are true and honorable and right and pure and beautiful and respected.”

Phil. 4:8

Why would this be an important verse to memorize?

9. Reread Philippians 3:20-4:9 and summarize the passages in one sentence.

What is one truth you’ve learned from lesson 8? How can you apply this truth to your life?