

PHILIPPIANS

A Virtual Community Group Guide

When you are in a position of disorientation, you need a fixed point of reference in order to reorient yourself. Otherwise you will spin in circles. The writers of the Bible over and over point to Jesus as our unchanging point of reference. They also suggest that pursuing Jesus is not something we're meant to do alone.

Therefore, we are calling all our communities at Hosanna to step with us into intentionally connecting and engaging a posture of reorientation to Jesus together. To help us with this, we will study the letter to the Philippians.

WHY PHILIPPIANS?

We've chosen the book of Philippians because it is a letter written by the Apostle Paul while he was quarantined in a Roman prison. From a place of confinement and uncertainty, Paul writes to his dear friends and grants them perspective about the great joy--even in hard times--in knowing Christ. He sums it up in his call to "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (4:4). We believe that through the letter to the Philippians, that God has a word of hope, perspective and joy for us as His church. (For a short overview of Philippians watch the short Bible Project Video on Philippians)

A SIMPLE STUDY PLAN

WEEK 1: Philippians 1:1-11

WEEK 2: Philippians 1:12-26

WEEK 3: Philippians 1:27-2:11

WEEK 4: Philippians 2:12-3:1

WEEK 5: Philippians 3:2-16

WEEK 6: Philippians 3:17-4:1

WEEK 7: Philippians 4:2-9

WEEK 8: Philippians 4:10-23

A SIMPLE METHOD

We've chosen a simple method called Discovery Bible Study Method that is perfect for virtual gatherings. It has been used around the world. It enables people to read the Bible and discover what it has to say to them. Simple, memorable questions allow participants to understand the character of God, encourage them to respond to what they are learning and help them to share it with others.



HOSANNA
CHURCH

A SIMPLE VIRTUAL COMMUNITY GROUP FORMAT

This simple format should only take about 60-75 minutes, which is perfect for virtual gathering.

QUICK CHECK IN: How is everyone doing in general?

LOOK UP: Loving God

Read the passage together. Then ask the first two core questions:

- What does this passage say about God? (Discuss)

- In this passage or story, what is God (Father, Son or Spirit) doing? (Discuss)

Then, have another person read the passage again. Next, ask the second two core questions:

- What does this passage or story say about people? What does it say about who I am?

- In light of this passage, how should I live? (Have each person identify what God is saying to them and how they will respond to that prompting.)

JUMP IN: Loving One Another

How can we care for & support one another during the Coronavirus? (Remember that the virus will cause people to get sick, but many people might be struggling vocationally, relationally, financially and emotionally. We want to engage with all of this.)

MOVE OUT: Loving Our Neighbor

How are the seniors or other vulnerable people on each of our individual blocks doing? How can we/you serve them?

How are the seniors or other people you're relationally connected to doing? How can we/you serve them?

Are there any immediate wider initiatives in our neighborhood or city happening that we need to be aware of and engage in?

TIME OF PRAYER

As you pray, connect what you learned from Philipians to the needs in your group and among your neighbors.

