



**RCC Phoenix – 2.14.21 – Philippians (Week 2)**

**1. \_\_\_\_\_ Slaves**

**Philippians 1:1 NLT**

This letter is from Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus.

Definition of “Slaves” (doûlos)

- metaph., one who \_\_\_\_\_ himself up to another's will
- those whose service is used by Christ in extending and advancing His \_\_\_\_\_ among men
- devoted to another to the \_\_\_\_\_ of one's own interests

The phrase, “One who gives himself up” implies a \_\_\_\_\_ action.

*Reflection Question:*

Have we voluntarily submitted ourselves to to advance the cause of Christ regardless of our own interests?

One of the greatest prophets in the Bible, \_\_\_\_\_, volunteered for his assignment.

Let’s look at a few similarities between him and Paul.

**Isaiah 6:1-4 NLT**

“It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. They were calling out to each other, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Heaven’s Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!” Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke.”

When Isaiah sees this picture, the holiness of Almighty God \_\_\_\_\_ him and he has a huge realization.

**Isaiah 6:5-7 NLT**

“Then I said, “It’s all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.” Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. He touched my lips with it and said, “See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven.”

The \_\_\_\_\_ thing Isaiah did upon realizing he was a sinful man in the presence of a holy God was fall on his face and repent.

Isaiah had a real encounter with God, repented of his sin, changed his ways and immediately \_\_\_\_\_ for the task God presented.

**Isaiah 6:8 NLT**

“Then I heard the Lord asking, “Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?” I said, “Here I am. Send me.”

Paul also had a real encounter with God, repented of his sin, changed his ways and volunteered for the task God presented.

*Reflection Question:*

When is the last time we have volunteered to get involved with extending or advancing the Lord’s cause even when it was out of our comfort zone?

2. Immediate \_\_\_\_\_

**Philippians 1:3-5 NLT**

“Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.”

Paul first stopped in Philippi on his 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey around 50 AD.

The Biblical letter to the Philippians was written about 10 years after his initial visit.

Paul was only in the city of Philippi for a few \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 16:11-12 NLT**

“We boarded a boat at Troas and sailed straight across to the island of Samothrace, and the next day we landed at Neapolis. From there we reached Philippi, a major city of that district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. *And we stayed there several days.*”

In that short period of time:

- People became \_\_\_\_\_ and were \_\_\_\_\_
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of Philippi was established
- Believers \_\_\_\_\_ began to spread the Gospel

**Acts 16:13-15 NLT**

On the Sabbath we went a little way outside the city to a riverbank, where we thought people would be meeting for prayer, and we sat down to speak with some women who had gathered there. One of them was Lydia from Thyatira, a merchant of expensive purple cloth, who worshiped God. As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying. She and her household were baptized, and she asked us to be her guests. “If you agree that I am a true believer in the Lord,” she said, “come and stay at my home.” And she urged us until we agreed.”

There are moments when God creates an immediate \_\_\_\_\_.

When someone becomes a believer in many parts of Asia, they fully realize 3 things:

- A. Their life is now in \_\_\_\_\_
- B. They are to \_\_\_\_\_ with other believers (establish a church)
- C. Their new life \_\_\_\_\_ is to tell others about Christ

*Reflection Questions:*

- Do we pray for immediate change?
- Are we ready for immediate change?
- Are we ready for immediate change of those we love?

3. Our \_\_\_\_\_ Will Continue

### **Philippians 1:6 NLT**

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”

Paul is certain that God will complete the full work all the way until the day *JESUS* returns.

There is a larger purpose behind every one of our obedient actions.

### **1 Corinthians 3:5-8 NLT**

“After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God’s servants through whom you believed the Good News. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. It’s not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What’s important is that God makes the seed grow. The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work.”

We are playing a \_\_\_\_\_ role in God’s overall purpose.

We are carrying forward the \_\_\_\_\_ work that believers who have passed away started.

We may never know the number of \_\_\_\_\_ that are being answered in the moment we witness to someone and lead them to Christ.

God’s purpose is active in both the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

What an *honor* to be counted worthy to participate in a small portion of God’s purpose!