
Endure

Philippians 1:1-

Paul and Timothy: The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to his close friends, the Christians in Philippi, from his Roman house arrest described at the end of Acts (Acts 28:30-31) as he waited for his court appearance before Caesar (around the year A.D. 61).

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi: The church in Philippi was founded by Paul some eleven years before this letter, on his second missionary journey (Acts 16:11-40). This was the first church established on the continent of Europe.

Acts 16:16-33

Girl Possessed

Paul and Silas

Prisoners

Jailer and Family

EARTHQUAKE!

"This is Paul's great singing letter. It was at Philippi that he had sung in prison at midnight, in the company of Silas. Now he was again in prison, this time in Rome." (Morgan)

Philippians 3:7-17 New International Version (NIV)

7 But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in[a] Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. 10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and

straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

15 All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. 16 Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

17 Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

But one thing I do:

A: Forget what is behind – Junk in the trunk

Sin= Poison. The more you itch it the better it feels but it spreads. Just want to itch (you know it will spread) but you lack the self-respect and discipline not to itch! Pretty soon you're diseased and the feeling of the euphoric itching is gone and your miserable and it itches even more.

New life we can't hold on to our old way of living – I can't look back or dwell in the past because it holds me back

- Past wounds
- Bitterness,
- Victim thinking
- Loneliness
- Belittling people holding someone down to keep me in control. Talking down or belittling Linda to keep her under control. Now I have to build her up. Give her to the Lord for his keeping. Pray for her. Give God room to speak to her

Strain toward what is ahead = Become a new person is like given a different body

My Young body I took no thought Active – ate what I wanted – abused it – over indulged
No problem

My Old body – Eat what is good for me, take care of it, and don't overdo it – over indulgence causes bad things to happen.

Plan for success – plan what to eat, plan when to exercise, plan when to sleep

Press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

2. Recognize your faults – know your weakness. Plan to stay away from temptation. Form new habits.

3. Routine- schedule good things in your life. What to attend what to not attend. How to serve or not to serve. Balance in life not reactive living but respond to situations by prayer and supplication.

Join with others

What is your destination? Be a disciple. Be disciplined. Who do you want to imitate? Ask and pray for a mentor. Spend time with them.

Benefits of being disciplined – learning someone’s way of life

1. How to spend your time
2. What to prioritize
3. How to make a good decision
4. Knowing your faults
5. Knowing your strengths
6. Applying biblical principles to everyday life

Finish line

15 All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. 16 Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

17 Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. 18 For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

4 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!