

## The Pauline Epistles to Churches

# 18

## Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

## Morning Study

In our morning studies to date, we have now completed reading all of what are called the Pauline Epistles to Churches (except for Paul's letter to the Romans, which we will reading during **Module 107**).

The Pauline Epistles to Churches total nine letters. Take time to look up the one key verse or passage\* which summarizes the main point of the letter:

- Romans – **1:16-17**
- 1 Corinthians – **12:30-14:1**
- 2 Corinthians – **11:2-4**
- Galatians – **1:6-9**
- Ephesians – **2:11-22**
- Philippians – **1:9-11**
- Colossians – **3:1-10**
- 1 Thessalonians – **5:9-11**
- 2 Thessalonians – **2:1-8**

Believe it or not, we have already read each of these epistles (except for Romans) a minimum of two times – and some of them up to three times! Starting tomorrow, we will begin reading the next four books of the Bible.

- 1 Timothy
- 2 Timothy
- Titus
- Philemon

These four letters were also written by Paul, but what makes them different is that they were written to individuals, not churches. Thus we will be referring to this block of four epistles as the Pauline Epistles to Individuals.

\* There is no hard and steadfast rule in choosing a key verse for an epistle, for the Lord is seeking to communicate a vast number of things through each letter. However, these selected verses should help you to pinpoint the main message of the letter, in order to remember its contents.

# Memory Exercise

Instead of a memory verse today, we're giving you a little exercise: to memorize the first nine letters of Paul. Even if you know them already, we recommend that you go over the list during today, remember what the message that each book brings.

Romans  
1 Corinthians  
2 Corinthians  
Galatians  
Ephesians  
Philippians  
Colossians  
1 Thessalonians  
2 Thessalonians

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your list:

- ➡ Run through the list, speaking each book aloud, in the same way that you normally memorize your memory verse.
- ➡ Once you have done this several times, take a look at the list as a whole. Note where each book falls – what comes before the book and what comes after it.
- ➡ Close your eyes and see if you can quote the list from memory.
- ➡ Test yourself again, but this time using two sheets of paper to cover all the books except one. Choose a book at random (with all other books covered) and see if you can remember which book comes before it and which book comes after it.
- ➡ Ask a friend to test you. Get him or her to call out one of the books, then see if you can say which book comes before and which book comes after.
- ➡ Print out the list or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Find time to run through your list during the day.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your list from memory (without cheating!)