

# The Book of Philippians

## 3

### Morning Devotions

In your devotions this morning, read **Psalm 52**. But before you read it, have a look at **1 Samuel 22:6-23**, which is the background to this psalm. As you read the psalm, talk to the Lord about the content of this psalm. When you have finished, go back and find one or two verses and meditate prayerfully on them.

### Morning Study

This morning we are going to look at the second section of Philippians – chapter 2. Again we will divide it into three sub-sections. Read each subsection and answer for yourself the questions associated with them. Type out your answers or jot them down on a piece of paper and file your answers with your morning study.

#### Read Philippians 2:1-11

- In **2:1**, Paul lists four blessings that are ours in Christ. Note them down and write next to them the four attributes he lists in **2:2** that he desires to see outworked in our life as Christians because of these blessings in Christ.
- What are the two choices of focus Paul refers to in **2:3-4**.
- Read **2:5-11** and write why **2:5** is the pivot scripture of this whole section of Philippians.

#### Read Philippians 2:12-18

- In **2:12** why does Paul say “work out your salvation” and not “work in your salvation”? (Note particularly **2:13**).
- In **2:14-16** what is it that will cause Paul to “boast on the day of Christ”?
- In **2:17-18** Paul says his life is being poured out like a drink offering (a type of Old Testament offering). Why does he say that makes him rejoice?

#### Read Philippians 2:19-30

- In **2:19-23** what are the qualities of character which Timothy had that made Paul confident to send him to the Philippians?
- In **2:25** Paul describes four expression of ministry to him by Epaphroditus. What are they?
- In **2:26-30** why was Paul sending Epaphroditus back?

# MEMORY VERSE

...continue to work out your salvation  
with fear and trembling, for it is God  
who works in you to will and to act  
according to his good purpose.

Philippians 2:12-13

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

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!