



Bible Translation Reviewers' Guide

Manual for Reviewers

(Philippians)

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ACCELERATING
BIBLE
TRANSLATION

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Purpose of this Reviewers' Guide

The purpose of this guide is to evaluate the translation of a book of the Bible to check that key concepts in the translation are understood and communicated clearly and accurately for those who read it.

Using this Reviewers' Guide

The team leader will need to read “How to Use the Reviewers' Guide” before proceeding ([Click here](#)). The preparation and process of reviewing an entire book is mostly the same as reviewing the doctrines or narratives. The following instructions are specifically for this Reviewers' Guide.

- In general, the book review questions are broader than the doctrine and narrative questions. The book review focuses on the main points of a passage, checking that the overall meaning is clear and accurate. Typically there are not questions about individual words or phrases.
- The team leader will need to ask all the questions for the entire book rather than choosing certain questions or passages. The goal of this Reviewers' Guide is to determine whether readers or listeners can understand the biblical author's meaning as they progress through a book.
- Unlike for doctrines and narratives, there is no follow-up section in the book review guide. If the reviewers give answers that do not match what is written in the Reviewers' Guide, the team leader can ask the reviewers to explain their answers further or to show in the passage what caused them to give their answers. The team leader does not need to determine if there is something wrong with the translation. The team leader should just record the answer that the reviewers give and any other relevant information.
- There are a few summary questions throughout the book review. These questions will be marked as “summary questions” and will be set in a different color than the other questions. The summary questions are designed to help the reviewers consider several verses or passages together to be able to determine the answer.
- There is also a final summary section at the end of the review. Its questions are designed to help the reviewers consider the book as a whole. While reading through Philippians you will want to think about these questions:
 - Why do you think Paul wrote this letter?
 - What are the key words in this letter?
 - What are the key verses in this letter?
 - What does this letter teach about Christ?
- An additional checking exercise is included after the review if the review team would like to continue checking their translation for accuracy.

Philippians Reviewers' Guide

If you have any questions or comments about this guide, please email us at:
translation_services@wycliffeassociates.org

1:1-11 Greeting, thanksgiving and prayer

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary Section		
Summarize this passage.	<input type="checkbox"/> Paul introduced himself and Timothy as servants of Christ. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul greeted all the Christians in Philippi along with the overseers and deacons. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul thanked God for the Philippians every time he thought of them. <input type="checkbox"/> The Christians who lived in Philippi were Paul's partners in the gospel. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul was confident that God would complete the good work that he started in the Philippians. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul prayed that their love would continue to grow in knowledge and understanding so that they would approve what is excellent. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul wanted this so that they would be blameless and righteous until the day Christ returns to the glory of God.	
Specific Questions		
When you read 1:1-2, what do you learn about what kind of writing this is?	It is the introduction to the letter, a greeting from a writer of a letter to those who will read it.	
Who are the two men mentioned in 1:1?	Paul and Timothy	

Philippians 1:1-11 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Who do you think is the main author of the letter? How do you know? [1:1-3]	Paul is the author. It is clear because he starts speaking in the first person singular in 1:3 and continues throughout. (Also, in 2:19, Timothy is referred to in the third person.)	
Why do you think Paul mentioned Timothy? [1:1]	Perhaps Paul wrote Timothy's name here because he was with Paul at this time. Or perhaps Timothy also wrote down the words of the letter as Paul spoke them to him. Timothy was also well known among the Philippians.	
Who did Paul write this letter to? [1:1]	The letter was to the Philippian Christians along with the church leaders (overseers and deacons).	
How do you think Paul felt about the Philippian Christians? [1:3-4, 8]	He loved them very much. He was joyful when he thought about them and thanked God always for them. He longed to be with them.	
Why did Paul love the Philippian Christians and long to be with them? [1:5, 7]	They were partners with him for the sake of the gospel. They helped him while he was in prison. They shared in God's grace with him.	
What was Paul confident about in 1:6?	The one who started working in the Philippians when they first started believing will finish his work.	
Who do you think began this good work? [1:6]	God began the good work.	
What good work do you think will be completed in them? [1:6]	This probably refers to their salvation and new life. God had saved them from sin and death and was giving them a new life of obedience to him.	

Philippians 1:1-11 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
In verse 9, what was Paul's prayer?	He prayed that as they learned and understood more that this would cause them to love more and more.	
How could learning and understanding more cause a person to love more? [1:9]	As we gain more knowledge and understanding about God, we will love him and other people more.	
Why do you think Paul prayed this way for the Philippians? [1:9]	Because Paul loved the Philippians so much, he also wanted their love for each other to grow more and more.	
In verse 10, what did Paul say was the reason he was praying this?	He wanted them to be able to know and determine what is most pleasing to God so that they would always do what is right and be without blame until the day Jesus returns.	
What else did Paul want for the Philippians? [1:11]	That through the righteousness that Christ had given them, they would continually do what is right, which would cause people to glorify and praise God.	

1:12-26 Paul's report on his ministry

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary Section		
Summarize this passage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paul wanted the Philippians to know that his situation had helped spread the gospel. <input type="checkbox"/> Because Paul was in prison in Rome, the whole palace guard and everyone else there had heard about Christ. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul's imprisonment had helped other Christians to more bold and fearless when telling people about the gospel. <input type="checkbox"/> However, other people preached the gospel in hopes to harm Paul while he was in prison. <input type="checkbox"/> Either way, Paul rejoiced that the gospel was being preached. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul rejoiced because that he would be delivered through prayers of the Philippians and the help of the Holy Spirit. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul had complete expectation that he would have complete boldness so that Christ would be exalted whether Paul lives or dies. <input type="checkbox"/> To live is Christ and to die is gain. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul considered dying to be far better than living so that he could be with Christ. <input type="checkbox"/> However, Paul knew he would remain alive so that he could continue helping the Philippians grow in their faith. <input type="checkbox"/> And the Philippians would have more reason to boast in Christ when they see that Paul has returned to them. 	

Philippians 1:12-26 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Specific Questions		
Describe Paul's situation and how Paul felt about it. [1:12-14]	He was in prison, but he was rejoicing that his imprisonment had helped to spread the gospel to the people who were there with him in prison (the prison guards and other prisoners who were there).	
Why do you think he wanted the Philippians to know this? [1:12-14]	They were probably concerned for him and praying for his release from prison. He wanted to reassure them that God was working good in the situation even if he was not released. He wanted them to also rejoice at how the gospel was going out.	
How was Paul's imprisonment causing the gospel to be spread? [1:13-16]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The palace guard and everyone else around Paul realized that he was in prison because of the gospel. • Most of the Christian brothers were encouraged to speak the word fearlessly. • Even those who did not like Paul were speaking about the gospel and by doing that they hoped to cause Paul trouble. 	
Why do you think Christians would be encouraged and speak the word more boldly when they learned that Paul was in prison? [1:14]	Perhaps they would think that if God could give Paul courage to preach the gospel even in prison, they could be confident that God would help them preach the gospel, even if people might put them in prison for doing that.	

Philippians 1:12-26 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
How do you think Paul's enemies thought they would afflict or trouble Paul by preaching the gospel? [1:15-16]	Paul was put in prison because he taught people about Christ. Perhaps some people thought that if the government saw that more people were preaching about Christ, the government would treat Paul more harshly in prison in order to scare the Christians. Or perhaps Jewish Christians did this because they did not like what Paul was teaching when he taught that people did not have to become Jews in order to become Christian.	
Why was Paul grateful for people to spread the gospel even if the motives of some of the preachers were not good? [1:16-18]	Paul was happy that people were hearing the gospel, no matter the motives of the preacher.	
What did Paul say he knew in 1:19?	Paul knew that by the prayers of the Philippians and the help of the Spirit, he would, in one way or another, be delivered. (Here, "delivered" could mean released from prison or receive his final salvation after he dies.)	
In verse 20, what did Paul say is his eager expectation and hope?	He was certain in the hope that he would not be ashamed but be would be bold, so Christ would be exalted whether Paul lived or died.	
Why do you think he expected or was certain of this? [1:20]	Paul had experienced God's faithfulness in his life before. He knew he could trust God to keep him above shame and to glorify himself through Paul.	
Was it prideful of Paul to be so certain that he would not be ashamed? [1:20]	No, it showed confidence in God, not in himself.	

Philippians 1:12-26 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
In 21-24, what did Paul mean that to live is Christ and to die is gain?	He meant that if he remained alive he would get to continue serving Christ and making more disciples. But if he died, he would be with Christ.	
Why do you think Paul said it would be far better to depart and be with Christ? [1:23]	To be with Christ means that his life would end, but also it would mean that his suffering would end and that Christ would bring him to a glorious life with God in heaven.	
Why did Paul think remaining alive was more necessary? [1:24-25]	If he remained alive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He could help the Philippians grow in their faith • The Philippians would rejoice greatly in Christ Jesus because he caused Paul to return to them 	
Summary question: In 1:12-26 do you see any main ideas that are repeated?	Paul contrasted the ideas of life/death, live/die, remain in body/depart be in Christ, and be in prison/deliver from prison.	

1:27-2:18 Instructions

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary Section		
Summarize this passage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paul told the Philippians to live their lives in a way that would be worthy of the gospel. <input type="checkbox"/> This way, whether he was with them or not, he would know they are remaining united as they strive together for the faith of the gospel. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul told them to not be frightened of their opponents. <input type="checkbox"/> This would be a sign of their opponents' destruction and the Philippians salvation. <input type="checkbox"/> God had freely given to the Philippians to the opportunity to have faith in Christ and to suffer for him. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul said if the Philippians had received any encouragement, comfort, fellowship, or mercy from Christ or the Spirit, then they should make Paul's joy complete by being united. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul told them not to be selfish but to think of others as better than themselves. <input type="checkbox"/> They should have the same mind as Christ. <input type="checkbox"/> Though Christ was in the form of God, he did not consider equality with God something to hold on to. <input type="checkbox"/> Christ emptied himself and became a servant, born in the likeness of man. <input type="checkbox"/> He humbled himself and obeyed God even to the point of death on a cross. <input type="checkbox"/> Therefore God exalted Christ above all others so that every person would bow before him and declare him Lord. 	

Philippians 1:27-2:18 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Therefore the Philippians should continue to work out their salvation in fear and trembling, for God was working in them to want to do what pleases him. ❑ They should do all things without complaining so that they would be blameless and pure examples in a wicked generation. ❑ They should continue holding on to the word of life so that when Christ returns, Paul may boast about them and know his work was not useless. ❑ Paul told them that even though his life was being poured out like a sacrifice, he still rejoices and so should the Philippians. 	
Specific Questions		
What was the sign that those who opposed the Philippians would be destroyed, but the Philippians would be saved by God? [1:27-28]	The Philippians' ability to remain united and to not be afraid, even though they had opponents.	
What did God freely give to the Philippians? [1:29-30]	Believing in Christ and suffering for him.	
In what ways do you think suffering for Christ is a gift? [1:29]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is an honor to be treated as Jesus was treated. ● It is a good thing to endure opposition for being a Christian. ● Suffering strengthens faith and trust in God. ● God rewards those who endure through suffering. 	

Philippians 1:27-2:18 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
What four conditions did Paul list in 2:1?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If they were encouraged by being united in believing in Christ • If they had experienced comfort because Christ loves them • If they had shared their lives with the Spirit of God • If they were able to show tenderness and compassion to others 	
If what Paul said in 2:1 was true about the Philippians, then, how did Paul want the Philippians to behave in 2:2-5?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They should make Paul joyful by being united in love and purpose. • They should not be selfish or conceited. • They should be humble and take care of other people. • They should think in the same way that Christ thinks. 	
What did Paul say about the life, sacrifices, and work of Jesus in 2:6-8?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus had the nature of God but gave it up to become a servant. • He became a human and humbled himself. He obeyed God even to the point of dying on the cross. 	
As a result of Jesus' life and work described in 2:6-8 what did God the Father do in 2:9-11?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God honored Jesus and gave him authority over all people. • Everyone will bow to him and acknowledge that he is Lord. And people will glorify God the Father. 	
Summary Question: Why do you think Paul included this information about Jesus in 2:6-11?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of this description of Jesus was to provide an example of how the Philippians should live (See: 2:5). • They should be as humble as Jesus, who gave up everything and became a servant. • They should be willing to suffer and even die in obedience to God the Father. 	

Philippians 1:27-2:18 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
After Paul taught about Jesus, what did Paul want the Philippians to do? [2:12]	With awe and reverence for God, they should work to do the good things that show that God has saved them.	
What do you think it meant for the Philippians to “work out their salvation”? [2:12]	They had been saved from their sins, so they were to honor God by the way they lived. Paul was not telling people to work in order to save themselves.	
What do you think Paul meant when he told them to work out their salvation “with fear and trembling”? [2:12]	He may have meant that they should fear God, in the sense that they should have great respect for him. Or he may have meant that because they love God, they may have a fear that causes trembling that they may sin against him.	
In verse 13, what motive does Paul give for the Philippians to continue working out their salvation?	They should continue working out their salvation because God was already working in them so that they are willing able to obey him and do what pleases him.	
What else did Paul command the Philippians to do in 2:14?	Do everything without complaining and arguing. (Probably a report had come to Paul in prison that the Philippians were complaining and arguing among themselves.)	
What would be the result of doing everything without complaining or arguing? [2:15-16]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They would be innocent before God. • They would be his children without any spiritual faults. • They would be examples of godly living to wicked people, as they obey and proclaim God’s word which gives life. 	
If the Philippians did as commanded, what would Paul boast on the day of the Lord? [2:16]	He would boast that his work produced good results, that is, he would see (in heaven) people who had become followers of Christ.	
What did Paul say in 2:17-18?	Even if he died as a result of his work for Christ, he would be glad and rejoice, and the Philippians should be glad and rejoice too.	

Philippians 1:27-2:18 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
How do you think Paul and the Philippians could have joy even when he was facing death? [2:17-18]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They could be glad and rejoice because it is an honor to die for Christ. Paul's life was not pointless. He fulfilled God's purposes for his life. • They could also rejoice if Paul died because he would get to be with Jesus forever. Being with Jesus is something Paul was eagerly waiting for. 	

2:19-2:30 Timothy and Epaphroditus

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary Section		
Summarize this passage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paul hoped to send Timothy to the Philippians so he could tell Paul how they were doing. <input type="checkbox"/> Timothy was concerned for the Philippians, he was like a son to Paul, and he served with Paul spreading the gospel. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul also was sending Epaphroditus back to the Philippians. <input type="checkbox"/> Epaphroditus was worried because the Philippians had heard he had been sick and almost died. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul wanted the Philippians to accept Epaphroditus back with joy because he had risked his life to serve Paul. 	
Specific Questions		
Describe Epaphroditus's situation when he was with Paul in 2:25-30?	He was sick and almost died, but he recovered. He was distressed.	
How did Paul want the Philippians to treat Epaphroditus when he returned? [2:28-30]	Paul wanted the Philippians Christians to welcome Epaphroditus back with joy. He was an example of the kind of people who should be honored.	

3:1-4:1 Warning about false teachers

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary Section		
Summarize this passage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paul told the Philippians to rejoice in the Lord. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul wrote the same things to them again to keep them safe. <input type="checkbox"/> He warned them the evil workers who mutilate the flesh (that is, they teach people must be circumcised in the flesh to be saved) <input type="checkbox"/> Paul said that Christians are the true circumcision, that is, the ones who worship by the Spirit, take pride in Christ, and do not trust in the flesh. <input type="checkbox"/> If Paul wanted, he could have trusted in the flesh more than anyone. <input type="checkbox"/> He was circumcised on the eighth day, was an Israelite, from the tribe of Benjamin, from a family of Hebrews, a Pharisee, persecuted Christians, and blameless according to the law. <input type="checkbox"/> In comparison to Christ, all of these things are a loss and worthless. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul gave up all things to gain Christ and to have a righteousness from God through faith in Christ. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul wanted to know the power of Christ's resurrection, the fellowship of his sufferings, and become like Christ in his death so that Paul may experience the resurrection. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul said he had not attained all these things yet, but he was striving towards them. <input type="checkbox"/> The Philippians should imitate Paul and those behaving as Paul did. 	

Philippians 3:1-4:1 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary (continued)	<input type="checkbox"/> Paul warned them about the enemies of the cross. They would be destroyed because they only care about early things. <input type="checkbox"/> A Christian's true home is in heaven. <input type="checkbox"/> Christians wait for Christ to return from heaven to give us glorious bodies, which he formed by his power to subject all things to himself. <input type="checkbox"/> Therefore the Philippians should stand firm in the Lord.	
Specific Questions		
What group did Paul warn the Philippians against? [3:2]	He warned them against a group that required circumcision in the flesh for Christians to truly belong to God. Paul called these people "dogs," "evil-workers," and "mutilators of the flesh."	
In 3:3, whom did Paul call "the circumcision"?	Paul said "we" are "the circumcision." This refers Paul and other believers in Christ.	
In 3:3, how did Paul describe those who belong to "the circumcision"?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They worship God by the Spirit. • They give glory to Christ Jesus and trust in nothing else. • They do not trust in any external rituals, even Jewish circumcision, to save them. 	
If Paul had wanted to trust in external rituals, like circumcision, what other things did he say he could have trusted in 3:4-5?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was circumcised on the eighth day of his life. • He was of the people of Israel. • He was of the tribe of Benjamin. • His parents were Hebrews as were his ancestors. • He had been a Pharisee. • He had persecuted Christians. • He had kept the law blamelessly. 	

Philippians 3:1-4:1 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Why do you think Paul's life as a Jewish Pharisee, described in 3:5, was so important to him before he became a Christian?	These were all things that Jews valued, and Paul thought that these things made him even more acceptable to God.	
How did Paul consider all these things after he believed in Christ? [3:7-8]	He considered them rubbish; they were of no value compared to how great it was to know Christ.	
Why did Paul reject and consider rubbish all the things he once trusted in? [3:8-9]	So that he might be united with Christ and, through faith, God would make Paul truly righteous.	
What did Paul say he wanted in 3:10?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He wanted to know, that is, to experience, being united with Christ, and he wanted to become more like Jesus. • He wanted to receive the power from Christ that gives new spiritual life. • He wanted to suffer like Christ and for Christ. • He wanted his death to be like Christ's death. (This does not mean he necessarily wanted to be crucified. He means he wanted to die completely to sin and to die for the sake of the gospel). 	
In 3:11, what did Paul say was the reason he wanted the things he mentioned in 3:10?	So that somehow he might attain to the resurrection from the dead. That is, so that God would raise him from the dead.	

Philippians 3:1-4:1 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
What did Paul say about himself in 3:12-14?	He said he was not yet perfect and had not yet received all the things he mentioned in 3:10, but he was doing everything he could to make sure he would receive the reward that Christ promises believers.	
Why do you think it was important for Paul to tell the Philippians the things about himself that he mentioned in 3:12-14?	He may have wanted his readers to understand that Christians must always continue to grow in their faith and to strive to be like Christ, and this effort is valuable. But in this life, no one will become perfect.	
What did Paul say in 3:15-16 that mature Christians should do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who are mature Christians should think the way Paul was thinking. • They should live up to what they have already attained. 	
In 3:17, why do you think Paul would tell the Philippians to follow his own example?	Paul knew that if they would live the way that he had, they would be pleasing to God.	
In 3:18-19 how did Paul describe those who did not follow Christ?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They lived their lives as enemies of Christ and the gospel. • The end of their lives would be destruction, not salvation. • They lived only to fulfill their desires and appetites. • They were proud of the things that they should have been ashamed of. • They only thought about the things of this world. 	

Philippians 3:1-4:1 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
According to 3:20-21, how are Christians different from those who are enemies of the Cross?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christians know that their true home is in heaven.• They eagerly wait for Jesus the Savior to return from there.• Christ will give them glorious bodies.	

4:2-23 Final remarks

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary Section		
Summarize this passage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paul pleaded with Euodia and Syntyche to united. <input type="checkbox"/> These women had worked with Paul, along with Clement and other workers. <input type="checkbox"/> Their names are in the Book of Life. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul told the Philippians to rejoice and let their gentleness be known to all people. <input type="checkbox"/> They should not be anxious, but should bring everything to God in prayer. <input type="checkbox"/> Then God will give them peace that surpasses understanding. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul told them to think on things that are true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, good, excellent, and praiseworthy. <input type="checkbox"/> The Philippians should continue doing what they learned from Paul. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul rejoiced that the Philippians had the opportunity to help him. <input type="checkbox"/> Not that Paul was in need. He had learned to be content in all situations, because he could do all things through him who strengthens him. <input type="checkbox"/> The Philippians had helped Paul when no one else would. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul had been well-supplied by the Philippians when Epaphroditus arrived. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul said that God would meet all the needs of the Philippians according to his great riches in glory in Christ. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul, the believers with him, and Caesar's household greeted the Philippians. 	

Philippians 4:2-23 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
Summary (continued)	<input type="checkbox"/> Paul ended the letter by praying for the grace of Lord Jesus Christ to be with their spirit.	
Specific Questions		
Who were Euodia and Syntyche? [4:3]	They were women who worked with Paul as he preached the gospel.	
What did Paul ask to be done about this matter? [4:3]	He asked his “true companion” to help them. (It is uncertain who the “true companion” was.)	
In 4:4-6 what did Paul command the Philippians to do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They should rejoice. • They should let everyone see how gentle they are. • They should not worry or be anxious. • They should tell God what they are thankful for. • They should tell the Lord about any needs they have. 	
In 4:8-9 what did Paul command the Philippians to do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They should think about all the things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy. • They should do all the things they learned from Paul. 	
If the Philippians do all the things in 4:4-6 and 4:8-9, what did Paul promise them in 4:7 and 4:9?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God would be with them • He would give them an inner peace that is greater than anyone can understand. • This peace that comes from Christ would keep them from worrying about the troubles of this life. 	
In 4:10, what did Paul say caused him to rejoice in the Lord?	They had renewed their concern for Paul. They had been concerned before about Paul but could not help. Now they were able to help.	

Philippians 4:2-23 (continued)

Question	Correct Answer	Comments
What was the secret that Paul had learned about being content in all situations? [4:12-13]	The secret of being content is that Christ gives a person strength to endure all situations.	
In 4:14-16 what did Paul say the Philippians had done for him in the past?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They had helped Paul when no one else would as he set out from Macedonia. • They sent help to him again and again when he was in Thessalonica. 	
What was Paul's response to the Philippian church when they gave him help? [4:18]	He gave thanks to God and he explained that their gift to him was like offering to God.	
How would helping Paul benefit the Philippians? [4:17, 19]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God would give the Philippians spiritual blessings for helping Paul. • God would provide everything they needed from the riches that he gives through Christ Jesus. 	
In 4:21-23, how did Paul end the letter?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul greeted all the believers in Philippi. • The Christians helping Paul, all the believers, and those in Caesar's household greeted the believer in Philippi. • "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen." 	
Why do you think Paul ended the letter by praying for Christ's grace to be with the Philippians? [4:23]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a typical way to end a letter. • It is Paul's prayer for Christ to continue showing his grace to the Philippians by sustaining them, strengthening them, and helping them grow spiritually forever. • The grace of Christ is central to the gospel and essential to Christian living. 	

Final Summary Questions

Question	Possible Answers	Comments
Why do you think Paul wrote this letter to the Philippians? What were his main points?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To tell them how he was doing. • To remind them of his love for them. • To encourage them to remain faithful even while being persecuted. (Note: many other reasons may be given at this point.)	
How do you think Paul felt about the Philippians? Give examples to support your answer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul loved them very much. • He knew the names of people in the church. • He rejoiced over them and gave thanks to God because of them. • He longed to be with them. • He wanted to remain alive so he could help them grow in their faith. 	
How did the Philippians feel about Paul? Give examples to support your answer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Philippians loved Paul very much. • They helped Paul over and over again in his work to preach the gospel, even when others would not help. • They sent Epaphroditus to help him in prison. • They sent him messages wanting his help and advice. 	
Were there any verses or words that seemed most significant to you?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joy/rejoice • Hymn about Christ • I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. • To live is Christ and to die is gain. • I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. • Be like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. (Other answers are also likely)	

Final Summary Questions (continued)

Question	Possible Answers	Comments
What does the book of Philippians teach you about your faith in Christ?	Answers will vary	

Additional Checking Exercise for Philippians

"Pairs" to check in the translation

This exercise is to check where these pairs occur in the translation and that they are rendered correctly in both sides of the "pair." (For example: is there both "envy" AND "strife;" if I am to live in the flesh OR if I die; not only to believe in him, BUT also to suffer for his sake, and the like, in the translation.)

1:1 grace AND peace
 1:15 envy AND strife ... (this pair could be put against "good will")
 1:16 latter (proclaim Christ) out of love, 1:17 former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition
 1:18 from false motives OR true
 1:21 for me to live is Christ AND to die is gain
 1:22 if I am to live in the flesh (OR implied if I die),
 1:22 yet which to choose 1:23 desire to depart OR 1:24 yet to remain in the flesh ...
 1:27 whether I come to you OR be absent
 1:28 sign of their destruction AND a sign of your salvation
 1:29 not only to believe in him, BUT also to suffer for his sake
 2:6 existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God ... (comparison)
 2:7 taking the form of a servant AND born in the likeness of men
 2:10 knees of those in heaven AND on earth (AND under the earth) (extent of similar terms)
 2:12 always obeyed—not only in my presence BUT in my absence.
 2:12 work out your own salvation with fear AND trembling
 2:14 complaining AND arguing (same kind)
 2:15 blameless AND honest (same kind)
 2:15 crooked AND depraved (same kind)
 3:7 things were a profit for me, I have considered them as loss
 3:15 think this way, AND if you think differently ... God will reveal it
 4:12 to be poor OR to have plenty; and another similar pair: to be well-fed OR to be hungry

If you have any questions or comments about this guide, please email us at:
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