

Philippians 1:12-18 S.P.E.C.K. Exhortation

Vs.12-Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, Vs.13-so that my imprisonment in *the cause of* Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else, Vs.14-and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have for more courage to speak the word of God without fear. Vs.15-Some to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will; Vs.16-the latter do it out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; Vs.17-the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment. Vs,18-What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice, yes, and I will rejoice.

My Words: Martina, Philippians 1:12-14

Vs.12-I want you to know my brothers and sisters that what has happened to me, has helped in advancing the gospel. Vs,13-Everyone knows of my imprisonment for the cause of Christ. Vs.14-My brothers and sisters in Christ have been greatly encouraged and because of their increased faith are more bold in sharing the gospel without fear.

My Words: Raymond, Philippians 1: 15-18

Vs.15-I am aware of those who are sharing the gospel from fleshly ambition, yet I am blessed to know of others who share Christ' message from a changed heart. Vs16-the former do it out of their great love for Him and they know I stand firm in defense of His message. Vs.17-the latter speak out of their flesh and seek personal gain, Vs.18-At any rate! What matters most is the revelation of Yeshua and His message to the lost souls of men. In this I exult and rejoice, and I will continue to exult and rejoice.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Testimony:

From the red TRUST prayer sheet to the blue 3 Column Bible Study sheet...

B. Purpose:

Three Column Bible Study / Guide...Brief explanation

C. Scripture: NLT-Hebrews 4:12-For the word if God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

II. S.P.E.C.K.

S---Is there a Sin to avoid

P---Is there a Promise, a prayer, or a praise in this passage.

E---Is there an Example to follow (0r not to follow)?

C---Is there a Command to obey?

K---Is there knowledge that I need to retain?

A. Personal S.P.E.C.K. Application

- 1. E-Example
 - A. Life of Paul...committed...
 - B. Bond-servant of Christ...
 - C. Lived a life beyond his circumstances
 - D. Hunger for the lost...
- **B.** Personal Testimony...Lost neighbor...dying from incurable disease...
- C. Gospel Unchained: Paul was imprisoned but the gospel wasn't
- **D.** Adversity's Role: As scripture teaches us again and again that adversity does not have to be a vehicle of despair or discouragement in the Christian life.
 - Adversity is really an opportunity to practice making better choices.
 - Adversity is a means in which our faith is strengthened.
- **E. Which Direction Will You Go?** Picture yourself driving. You have a choice to make in which direction you want to go. As Christians we need to decide which direction, we would allow our circumstances / trials to take us. Paul chose to focus on the good while still in chains. He chose to focus on the eternal and not his temporary circumstances.

III. Closing Thoughts

- 1. Do you recall the time in your life when you hungered for the souls of the lost?
- 2. What changes do you need to make to your lifestyle to demonstrate that the gospel and Christ' honor are your top priorities?