

PERSONAL REFLECTION GUIDE

10/20/24

At Southland Church, we are committed to help you KNOW Christ, LIVE like Him, and make Him KNOWN. This guide is designed to help you reflect on and apply what you learned through the sermon this weekend. Use this guide as a quiet time during the week. Write your answers in a journal, with the date and main passage noted at the top of the page.

- What main point from the sermon stood out to you?
- What did the Holy Spirit convict you of or encourage you with?
- **Read Acts 16:11-34.** Three people – a rich, God-fearing woman and her family, a spiritually-oppressed slave girl, and a blue-collar Roman jailer and his family – were the starting members of the Philippian church. What stands out to you about these three conversion stories?
- How can these stories encourage or challenge you in personally sharing the Gospel?
- **Read Philippians 1:1-11.** Paul is writing this letter from a jail. What feelings and thoughts might we consider “appropriate” when writing from a jail cell?
- Although Paul is in jail, he is joyful. What are the reasons that Paul is so happy?
- What do you think Paul means by calling the Philippians partners in the Gospel?
- What does Paul mean when he says God will complete the good work he began in them (1:6)? Does this verse encourage you? If yes, how so?
- What does Paul’s perspective show about how we can face unpleasant circumstances, as believers in Jesus? Do you think it’s ‘wrong’ to be unhappy in unpleasant circumstances? How come?
- What do we learn about Paul’s perspective on life from his prayer in verses. 9-11?
- How does Paul’s description of love in verse 9 differ from the world’s?
- If Paul’s prayer was answered in your life, how might your life change? How might your perspective on suffering for the Gospel be impacted?
- Write one step of obedience the Holy Spirit is leading you towards this week. Who will you tell about this step, in order to help you?

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

Read Philippians 1:12-27. What is Paul’s priority in these verses? In practice, where does that priority fit in your list of priorities? How do you know?



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FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Southland Church is committed to helping parents raise the next generation of disciples who KNOW Christ, LIVE like Him, and make Him KNOWN. This guide is meant to help you as a family, particularly those over 12 years old, to discuss the Sunday sermon. You can do this in an evening devotion or over lunch after service.

A few tips to get started: (1) Make this a phone-free conversation. You and your family put the phones away, except for the person who looks up the Scriptures. He/She would read the passage and then put his/her phone away. (2) Set the pace for how vulnerable to be. If you give a shallow answer, you are more likely to get a shallow answer from your kids. (3) Do not feel like you have to ask all of these questions. Just focus on having a good honest discussion.

Open with prayer, asking God to lead you to know more about Christ and live like Him.

- What stood out to you from the sermon this week? What challenged or encouraged you?
- Describe a time when you were in a painful or difficult situation. What was that like for you? What was your attitude like?
- **Read Philippians 1:1-8.** Paul is writing this letter from a jail. How would you describe his emotions in these verses?
- What are some reasons Paul is happy, even though his situation is bad?
- Paul says that his "partnership in the gospel" with the Philippians bring him joy. What he means is that they have a shared purpose to tell others about Jesus. Why do you think that might bring someone joy?
- Do you have friends you consider "partners in the gospel"? Who are they? How are they encouraging to you?
- Why is it hard for you and me to be happy about good things when we are in bad situations?
- **Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-12 and 4:16-18.** When Paul says "this treasure" he is talking about the Gospel. What does Paul think about hard situations in these verses?
- What gives Paul hope, in these verses?
- What is one thing you want to put in practice from these passages or the sermon?

Ask if there is some way you can pray for your family members, and then close in prayer.



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