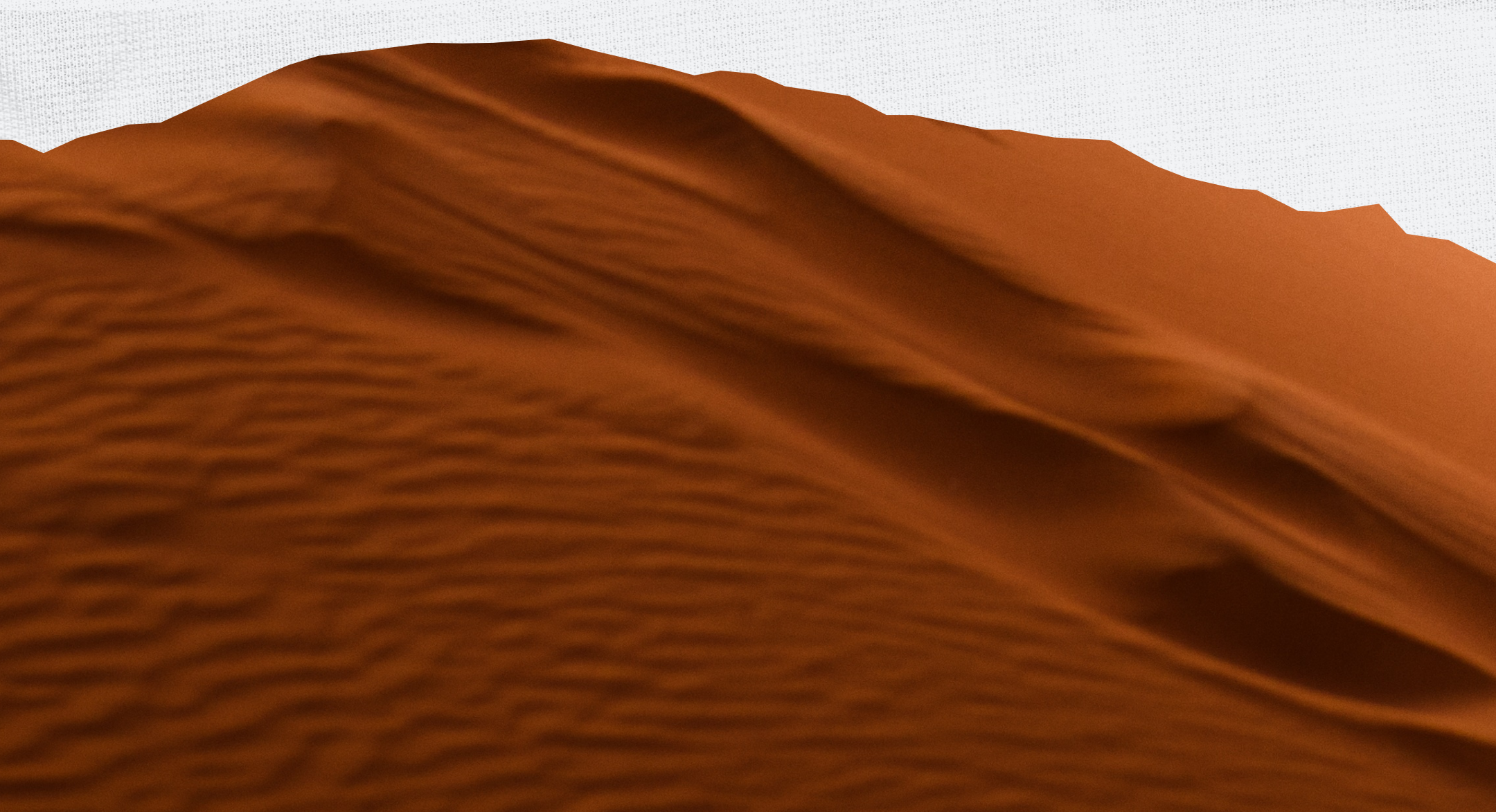




THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

CHAPTER ONE



MONDAY

WEEK 1

READ

- Philippians Ch. 1-4

OBSERVE

- What themes do you see repeated throughout Paul's letter?

RESEARCH

- What is the context of the letter? What can you learn about Paul and the city he's writing to?



REVIEW FROM **YESTERDAY**

OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK



LETTER OVERVIEW

PAUL, THE AUTHOR

- writing from prison, facing possible execution
- his message has reached all of Rome
- has deep affection for the Philippians
- thanking them for their generosity

THE CITY OF PHILIPPI

- a town in northern Greece made up of both Jews and Gentiles, mostly lower-class.
- also occupied by wealthier Romans who were there to colonize, bringing the culture of Rome
- very culturally, religiously, ethnically, and socioeconomically diverse

THE CHURCH IN PHILIPPI

- Likely the first church established by Paul on his missionary journeys
- Experiences conflict and division

THEMES OF THE LETTER

- Joy and rejoicing, even in suffering
- Advancement of the Gospel, specifically through **unity** and **holiness**
- Longing for the return of Christ

TUESDAY

WEEK 1

READ & OBSERVE

- Philippians 1:3-11
- Galatians 5:22-23
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

INTERPRET & APPLY

- How is the work of the Holy Spirit implied throughout these verses?
- What fruit would you hope to see more of in your life by living in the reality of Christ's return?
- For Paul, prayer was a central form of partnership in the gospel. How can your prayer life more fully reflect that conviction? What are the obstacles to doing this?

MORE COOL STUFF

- Bible Project Youtube: Day of the Lord

WEDNESDAY

WEEK 1

READ & OBSERVE

- Philippians 1:12-18
- 1 Peter 1:6-7
- James 1:2-4
- Word study (next page)

INTERPRET & APPLY

- What were Paul's circumstances and how did they serve to advance the gospel?
- What are some difficult circumstances you are facing and how might God be using them to advance the gospel?
- In what ways do you tend to leave ministry to the "professionals" rather than seeing your life and circumstances as part of the mission?

WORD STUDY

DOKIMÁZŌ, G1384 (DOK-IM-AD'-ZO)

1. to test, examine, prove, scrutinize (to see whether a thing be genuine or not), as metals

PAUL, PETER, AND JAMES

They all rejoiced in suffering because they understood trials would "prove" or "test" the genuineness of their faith (pistis), which means trust or belief. As a goldsmith heats gold to bring impurities to the surface so he can skim them away, trials bring our weaknesses to the surface so Christ can transform us. A goldsmith knew he was finished purifying the gold when he could look over it and see his reflection. In trials, God can prove that he has placed in us true faith, which is the ability to trust and believe Him even when our circumstances tell us otherwise. It is not that we must prove ourselves in trials, but that God is proving the reality of Christ in us.

THURSDAY

WEEK 1

READ & OBSERVE

- Philippians 1:18-26
- Job 13:15-19
- word study (next page)

INTERPRET & APPLY

- How does Paul imply his situation is similar to Job's?
- Paul's sense of kingdom responsibility shapes his will to live. How does his outlook on death and life challenge your own sense of value, dignity, and importance of the life in Christ you live here on earth?
- What fruitful work has the Lord called you to do in your home, work, school, or community?

WORD STUDY

SOTERIA, G4990 (SO-TAY-REE'-AH)

rescue or safety:

1. deliverance, preservation, safety, salvation; preservation (of physical life), safety;
 - b. salvation as the present possession of all true Christians

PHILIPPIANS 1:19

"for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance."

JOB 13:16a

'Indeed, this will turn out for my deliverance,'

FRIDAY

WEEK 1

READ & OBSERVE

- Philippians 1:27-1:30
- Romans 8:17

INTERPRET & APPLY

- What are the marks Paul gives for Christians conducting themselves in a manner worthy of the gospel?
- Where have you experienced opposition in your attempts to live your faith publicly?
- How can you personally contribute to unity within your community at Purdue?

SATURDAY

RECAP

CHAPTER 1

- Paul writes from prison to thank them for partnering with him in generosity.
- He shares his hope in suffering comes from knowing the gospel is advancing, the Lord will deliver him, and that Christ will return to deliver all who believe in him.
- Paul ends Ch. 1 by noting what should mark a life lived in a manner worthy of the gospel:
 - Unity
 - Common Purpose
 - No Fear
 - Enduring Suffering