

PAUL IN PRISON WEEK 7. THE LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Class Assignment: Write a return letter to Paul based on the content of your assigned chapter.

PHILIPPIANS 1 RESPONSE LETTER

Linda, Karla, Linda, Betty, servants of Christ Jesus, to Paul, an Apostle jailed in Rome.

Thank you so much for your recent letter. We were so encouraged to hear that the Gospel is spreading even though you are in prison. We are praying for you daily that God will continue to help you stand strong. We pray that we too will be able to follow your example of faithfulness. It is our prayer that we will stand firm. We are willing to suffer for him just as you are, so grateful for your example. We do count it as a privilege to suffer for the sake of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Our hope is that we stand firm in writing with one mind striving side-by-side for the gospel and not frightened by our opponents. It is our goal to send another offering to you to help with your daily needs and to further your ministry there. Look for Archippus to come to you soon.

Grace and peace to you in the love of Jesus Christ our Savior.

PHILIPPIANS 2 RESPONSE LETTER

From your servants in Philippi to our brother Paul in Christ. Our prayer for you is thanksgiving to you for your unselfish goodness to us and your righteous example.

The brothers and sisters here are doing what they can to hold fast to God's word without grumbling or disputing. We hope to be blameless and innocent. Christ is our example for his humility, emptying himself by taking the form of a servant.

Grace and peace to you.

PS Thanks for sending Timothy and Epaphroditus.

PHILIPPIANS 3 RESPONSE LETTER

From the brothers and sisters at the corner house on Via Egnatia and Oak Park to Paul our apostle of Christ.

We graciously thank you for your last letter to us. Even while in prison you choose to remember us and to pray for each of us. Thank you for being an example for Christ even though it has been painful.

You were writing about the importance of following Christ. Even though you abandoned your qualifications and encourage us to follow your example, we are just a bit anxious about what you are talking about. It's not like we can all suffer in prison like you are able to do. We all also want to know Christ, but really—how do we do this in everyday life? It's hard enough getting kids to school in the morning and food on the table. How do we not set our minds on earthly things? We want to be mature in Christ, and live like our citizenship is in heaven. What can we do here while we wait for our transformation?

Thank you for taking time to share more ideas with us. May the Lord's favor continue to be seen in you!

PHILIPPIANS 4 RESPONSE LETTER

Ron, Gigi, and Charlotte greet you Paul in prison in Rome.

We pray your strength and perseverance will continue. Your joy shows through and is an encouragement to us. Through your encouragement and help of the Holy Spirit Euodia and Syntyche have settled their disagreement.

We strive to live in the promise that the Lord is near—and feel the peace of God with us. In addition, we pursue thinking on whatever is true, right, pure, lovely and admirable.

We were happy to share your troubles and will continue to do so.

May the grace of the Lord be with you.