

Learning to Love Christians

Paul's Thanksgiving and Affection for the Philippians in 1:3-8. **Part 1, v3-4**

Introduction

3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 4 always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, 5 in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. 7 For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me. 8 For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

- 1 One, two or three Christians
- 2 Transform you into someone 'others' can love
- 3 Ask God to strengthen the relationships of our church

#1 Thank God for _____ in them

Verse 3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you

I THANK

MY GOD Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
Genesis 28:21 I return to my father's house in safety, then the Lord will be my God.
Mark 15:34b "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

REMEMBRANCE

1 Remember their _____

2 Say _____ to everyone who serves you

Romans 1:8 I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. Philemon 1:4 I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, 5 because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints

3 _____

1st PRAY for them with Joy

Verse 4 *always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all*

1 The _____ = verse 4 offering PRAYER

2 The _____ = verse 4 ALWAYS offering prayer

Ephesians 6:18 *pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.*

Romans 12:12 *Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.*

3 The _____ = always offering prayer with JOY

Philippians 3:1 *Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord.* 4:4 *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!*

Acts 16:25 *were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them*

James 1:2 *Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials*

4 The _____ = verse 4 always offering prayer with joy IN MY EVERY PRAYER FOR YOU ALL

1- _____ God for them in prayer every day this week

2-Choose to _____ on their Christlike strengths

Philippians 4:8 *whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely ... let your mind dwell on these things.*

3-Trust God to bring you _____ through prayer

4-Ask yourself: How you can become more _____?

Questions to promote growth in Christlikeness - take time this week to answer...

1-What principles from verses 3-4 today belong only to the Philippians and which belong to all Christians?

2-How could Paul actually give sincere thanks to God for the Corinthian Church - which he did?

3-How does focusing on what Christ has done in someone else cause us to change the way we love them?

4-How does praying for other believers actually change the way we treat them?

5-What dependent Spirit empowered steps can we take from verses 3-8 of Philippians 1 to actually help us love Christians?

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