

For Reflection... on Philippians

As you've seen there are quite a few rich and profound passages in Paul's short letter to the Philippians. Here are the opening words to the primary ones:

- 1:6 (& 9-11)** "And I am sure that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ..."
- 1:21-24** "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain..."
- 2:3-11** "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus..."
- 3:8-11** "I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord..."
- 3:20-21** "But our citizenship is in heaven..."
- 4:4-7** "Rejoice in the Lord always..."
- 4:11-13** "For I have learned to be content with whatever I have..."

Choose one or another of these verses, and read it more than once. Then:

1. Read a few of the surrounding verses in order to get a sense for the context. Ask yourself what the general theme is.
2. Spend some time considering what this theme means for life and faith in Christ.
3. Now pause over words and/or phrases that strike you. Reflect on how you might apply them in your daily life.

And, of course, pray for God's wisdom and guidance as you read and reflect! (Since there are seven passages here, you might focus on one of them each day of the week.)