

FOR
TEENS
AGES
15-17

SENIOR HIGH BIBLE CLASS

WINTER QUARTER | DECEMBER | JANUARY | FEBRUARY 2023-24



Senior High Bible Class

WINTER QUARTER

Living in Christ

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LOOKING AHEAD

All those who have trusted in Christ are alive in Him. In this quarter, we will look into the implications of this wonderful truth.

In our first unit, entitled “New Life in Christ,” we learn from Philippians that Christ does not just contribute to life—He *is* our life. We should learn, therefore, to properly assess what is truly valuable and to be content with whatever conditions the Lord brings into our life. We finish the unit on Christmas Eve, celebrating the birth of the Word of God and what it means to be children of light.

The second unit addresses the transformation that comes from being in Christ. We have been adopted into Christ’s family and molded to fulfill His kingdom purposes. We are now part of a spiritual family, empowered to serve the Lord in unity. And these blessings are to extend to our earthly families as well.

Our final unit explores practical ways in which we are to live for Christ. Wearing our spiritual armor, recognizing our completeness in Christ, and forgiving as we have been forgiven, may we live lives pleasing to Him.

Vol. XCIII

December 2023, January, February 2024

No. 1

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Union
Gospel
Press

Edited and published quarterly by
THE INCORPORATED TRUSTEES OF THE
GOSPEL WORKER SOCIETY
UNION GOSPEL PRESS DIVISION

Rev. W. B. Musselman, Founder

Price: \$3.79 per quarter*

*shipping and handling extra

ISBN 978-1-64495-440-9

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SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT

PHIL. 1:12 But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things *which happened* unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;

13 So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places;

14 And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

15 Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will:

16 The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds:

17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel.

18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

19 For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your

prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

20 According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death.

21 For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.

22 But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.

23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

24 Nevertheless to abide in the flesh *is* more needful for you.

25 And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith;

26 That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.

NOTES

PLEASE NOTE: Fundamental, sound doctrine is the objective of The Incorporated Trustees of the Gospel Worker Society, Union Gospel Press Division. The writers are prayerfully selected for their Bible knowledge and yieldedness to the Spirit of Truth, each writing in his own style as enlightened by the Holy Spirit. At best we know in part only. "They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

To Live Is Christ

Lesson Text: Philippians 1:12-26

Related Scriptures: Acts 28:11-16, 30-31; I Corinthians 3:5-9;
II Corinthians 5:1-9; II Timothy 4:6-8

TIME: A.D. 60-61

PLACE: from Rome

GOLDEN TEXT—“In nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death” (Philippians 1:20).

ANALYZING

You find yourself in a huge mess. People are accusing you of things you did not do. Suddenly your privileges are taken away. You find yourself isolated, suspected, judged. This is where you stand up with a genuine smile on your face and say, “Praise God! I am so glad all this happened!”—right?

If you think that would be an insane response, take a look at the apostle Paul. Thrown into prison for preaching the gospel, he asked for his right as a Roman citizen to be tried in Rome, which would be something like having the Supreme Court hear the case. Now he endured house arrest in Rome, most likely chained to a Roman guard or two at all times. He waited and waited and waited.

During this time, Paul was able to have visitors and to send and receive mail. In this way he kept in touch with the churches he had established in various places. The letter he wrote to the Christians at Philippi was inspired by God and is called Philippians in the Bible. In this book, Paul

showed an incredible attitude that reflected the fact that for Him to live was all about Christ.

1. Pleasing Christ by inspiring others (Phil. 1:12-18). Paul’s letter did not ask for sympathy or question why God let these things happen to him. Instead, he explained that his circumstances actually were helping the gospel to be spread.

Remember that Paul was constantly with Roman guards. These men saw Paul’s godly response to his circumstances, and they eventually came to realize that this man’s imprisonment stemmed not from some criminal enterprise but from serving Jesus Christ.

As the guards listened to Paul’s conversations with others about spiritual matters, or heard him read aloud the inspired letters sent to the various churches, they were constantly hearing the gospel. Since the guards most likely were on a rotating schedule, dozens, even hundreds, of guards may have heard how to be saved. It is probable that many trusted in Christ as Saviour.

Paul’s imprisonment also had inspired other believers to preach