

The Centrality of Christ

Philippians 1:1-2

April 24, 2022

Note: This tool is designed for groups, though it can be used for personal study. It is also designed to equip and motivate you to share the gospel with others. Learn. Apply. Share.

Target Passage → Philippians 1:1-2

- 1) Describe the three different ways Paul uses Jesus' name in this introduction. What impression does this give you for the letter you're about to read?
- 2) How does Paul's standard greeting of "grace and peace" summarize the gospel?
- 3) Paul's introductions give an indication of what he'll say in the letter. Read through the following bridge passages and note the elaborations on what you find in the intro.

Bridge Passages (for further study) → Philippians 1:3-6, 19-21; 2:5-11, 14-15; 3:13-14; 4:4-7

For Me →

- 1) Would you describe yourself as a servant (bondservant or slave) of Christ? If so, how does that impact the way you live?
- 2) How would you distinguish this Master/servant relationship from the abuses of slavery we have seen throughout history, particularly in this country?

For the Mission →

- 1) How might you use Paul's greeting of grace and peace to help someone in turmoil?
- 2) What would you say to someone who identifies as a Christian but does not appear to be a servant of Christ?

PRAYER FOCUS

Thank God for the grace and peace you have because you are a saint, sanctified and bonded to Christ Jesus.