

A. Examining the texts.

1. Read Phil 1:1-2. Who were Paul and Timothy and how did they see themselves?
2. Read Phil 1:3-11. How does Paul feel about his relationship with the Philippians and how does he express how he feels?
3. Read Phil 1:12-18a. What does this passage reveal about what motivates Paul and inspires him in his ministry and work?
4. Read Phil 1:1-18. What overall impression do you get when it comes to what motivates Paul in his work and ministry?

B. Meditation & application

5. One of the things that Paul does in this letters is that he remembers the Philippians with joy. Take some time to remember some Christian people you know and pray for them- thanking God for who they are.
6. What does this section of Paul's letter to the Philippians reveal about what good motives for ministry look like? What kind of unhelpful motives for serving can hinder us? What can we learn from Paul in this regard?
7. Philippians reveals Paul's obsession with Christ and his people. How does his example challenge and inspire you?
8. Read Paul's prayer in Philippians 1:8-9 again. What things does Paul pray for? What does this reveal about his priorities and how can you model your prayers for others on what Paul has said here?

Prayer: Heavenly Father; Thankyou for what you have done in Christ Jesus. Thank you for the model of selfless service that Paul embodied with his churches. Help us to have a strong desire for the glory of Christ and to be passionate about his people. In Jesus Name- Amen.