

# Study Guide

**For the Week of January 11, 2009**

*This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one from under a chair in the Worship Center. They are there for you to take home and use! Message manuscripts are available at [www.spwired.com](http://www.spwired.com).*

**Monday—Read Philippians 1:9-11** in the New Testament. This prayer for the Philippians makes even more sense in the light of the conflict that was happening in the church in Philippi. Conflict is a part of human interaction. It is not necessarily bad; in fact much good can come from it if it is handled properly and in a Christian manner. What would be an example of a healthy conflict producing a positive outcome? What does unhealthy conflict look like? What has been your experience of each of these types of conflict?

**Tuesday**—As you begin reading this chapter remember that Paul is here giving the Philippians the key to handling conflict. **Read Philippians 2:1-5**. What are the keys to handling conflict? What does this passage teach us about the heart of a Christian? How are you doing at allowing God to shape this heart in you? **Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-8** in the New Testament. This was written as a guide to help the Christians in the city of Corinth, who were also experiencing conflict, to find joy and peace in their church. What can you learn from these passages for your life?

**Wednesday—Read Philippians 2:5-11**. This passage is considered by many scholars to be the oldest song in the New Testament. It would have been sung by Christians as early as 45 A.D. This song reveals to us the beliefs of the earliest Christians. These verses indicate that the earliest Christians believed in the deity of Christ and in his triumphant return at a future date. What do you learn about Jesus here?

**Thursday**—Read these verses in light of the problem at Philippi with conflict. They are closely linked to what has come before in this chapter. **Read Philippians 2:12-18**. Paul repeatedly teaches us that salvation is a gift, not earned by our works—so what does Paul mean when he says that we should work out our faith with fear and trembling? Notice verse 14. How can you “shine like a star in the sky” and in what ways should you “hold out the word of life” to others?

**Friday**—The following are various passages on humility. Read **2 Samuel 22:28, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Proverbs 11:2 and Isaiah 57:15 in the Old Testament**. In the New Testament read **Luke 13:7-11, Luke 18:9-14, James 4:6-11, John 13:1-17**. How do these passages speak to you today?

## Prayer Concerns

### **Serving in Iraq:**

Curtis Phillips  
Cyle Haywood (non-military)  
Ryan Grindstaff

### **Military:**

Jesse Smith  
Nathan Lawellin  
Matthew Peak  
Stephen Leadbetter  
Richard Hurst  
James Lesimeister  
Jon Arnold  
Jason Lewis

### **Health & Healing:**

Terry Hoagland  
Jim Grindstaff  
Carrol Skelton

Jr. Skelton  
Jacob Logsdon  
Alan Routledge  
Peggy Rodriguez  
Edna & Ervin Dill  
Dorothy Dunn

### **Cancer Treatment:**

Sonja Davidson  
Tracy Bowman  
Michael Lucas

### **Other Concerns:**

Austin Lawrence  
Mildred Fagen  
Trey Pittsenburger  
Aminta Aguilae  
Edwinn Martin  
Robbin Martinez

James Martin  
Mary Soriano & Family  
Miguel Soriano  
Mario Soriano  
Angie Gaston  
Patrick & Bobbie Hamilton & Family  
Vicki West  
Carol Brokman  
Cathy Cranor  
Earl Anderson Family  
Heather Cheatham & Father  
Arthur Krause  
Danny & Ariverca Lowe  
Bob Hicks  
Pat Martin