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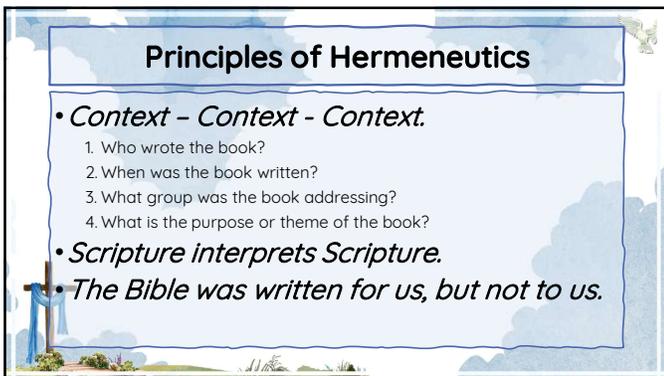
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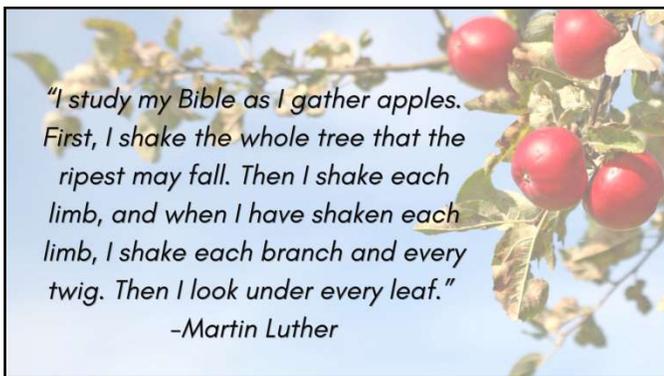
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***Systematic and Biblical Theology.***

- **Theology** is learning what the Bible teaches us about God.
- **Systematic Theology:** “What does the whole Bible say about this topic?”
- **Biblical Theology:** “How does God’s truth unfold in the storyline of the Bible or in one book?”

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***Systematic theology and Biblical theology.***

- **Systematic lens:** What does this letter teach us about joy, Christ’s humility, or salvation compared to the rest of Scripture?
- **Biblical lens:** How does Paul’s argument about joy in Christ develop from the opening prayer in chapter 1, through the hymn in chapter 2, to his personal testimony in chapter 3, and then into his final encouragement in chapter 4?

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***Systematic theology and Biblical theology.***

- **Systematic theology says:**
- Philippians 4:4 says, “Rejoice in the Lord always.” Where else does the Bible teach joy in God? Psalm 16:11 ...“In your presence there is fullness of joy.”
- **Biblical theology says:**
- Watch how Paul unfolds joy in Philippians ...prayerful joy (1:4), sacrificial joy (2:17-18), forward-looking joy (3:1), steadfast joy (4:4). Then listen to David’s steady voice in Psalm 16: “With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken” (16:8).

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**The DWELL Method**

- **Discover** ...Who's writing? Who's it to? What's the situation?
- **Wonder** ...Ask questions. "What does this mean? Why would Paul say that?"
- **Examine** ...Look for repeated words, themes, structure.
- **Link** ...Connect what you're reading to other parts of the Bible. footnotes, cross-references, and concordance - Scripture interprets Scripture.
- **Live** ..."How does God want me to live differently because of what I've just read?"

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**Resources In & Out of Your Bible**

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Footnotes</li> <li>•cross-references</li> <li>•maps</li> <li>•concordance</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Lexicons</li> <li>•Strong's concordance</li> <li>•commentaries</li> </ul> |
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**How to Read Philippians**

- Author: Paul, the Apostle
- Date & Location: AD 60-62, Rome
- Recipients: The Church in Philippi
- Purpose: Encouragement & Gratitude

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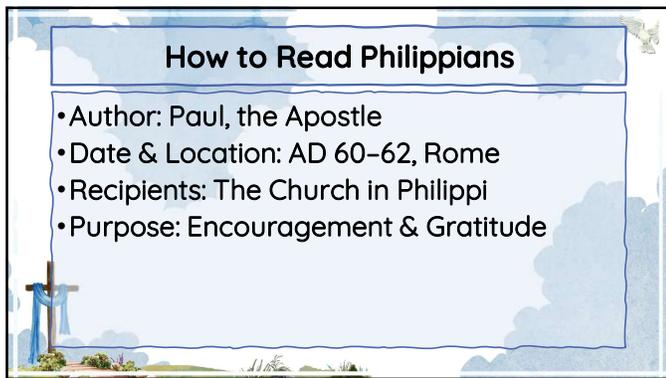
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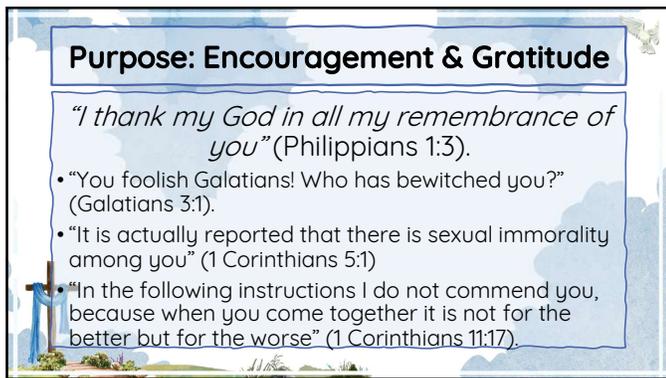
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**Purpose: Encouragement & Gratitude**

*"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you"* (Philippians 1:3).

- "I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace" (1:7).
- "...with the affection of Christ Jesus" (1:8).
- "...my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown" (Philippians 4:1).

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**Philippians and Christian Doctrine**

- *Christ's humility and exaltation.*
- "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who... humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him" (2:5-9).
- "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy" (Psalm 16:11).

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**Philippians and Christian Doctrine**

- *Justification by faith.*
- "I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord... not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ" (3:8-9).
- "I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you" (Psalm 16:2).

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**Philippians and Christian Doctrine**

- *Joy that transcends circumstances.*
- “I will rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance” (1:18-19). “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice” (4:4).
- “Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure” (Psalm 16:9).

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**Philippians and Christian Doctrine**

- *Peace and steadiness in God's presence.*
- “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God... will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (4:6-7).
- “I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken” (Psalm 16:8).

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**Philippians and Christian Doctrine**

- *Contentment in Christ's strength.*
- “I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content... I can do all things through him who strengthens me” (4:11-13).
- “The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance” (Psalm 16:5-6)

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**How to Read Philippians Well**

- *First, remember: it's a letter.*
- *Second, pay attention to repeated words and phrases.*
- *Third, remember this letter is both theology and testimony.*



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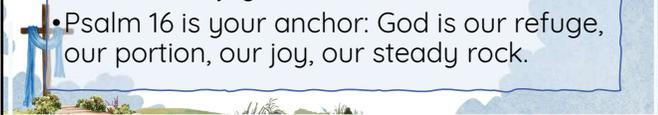
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**Conclusion & Application**

- The *DWELL method* is your compass. Discover, Wonder, Examine, Link, Live.
- The background of Philippians is your roadmap: Paul, Rome, the Philippians, a letter full of joy.
- Psalm 16 is your anchor: God is our refuge, our portion, our joy, our steady rock.



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**Conclusion & Application**

Our goal is not to just “do” Bible study. It’s to dwell richly. To let the Word of Christ dwell in us, so that our lives ...our words, our choices, our relationships ...all reflect His steady joy.



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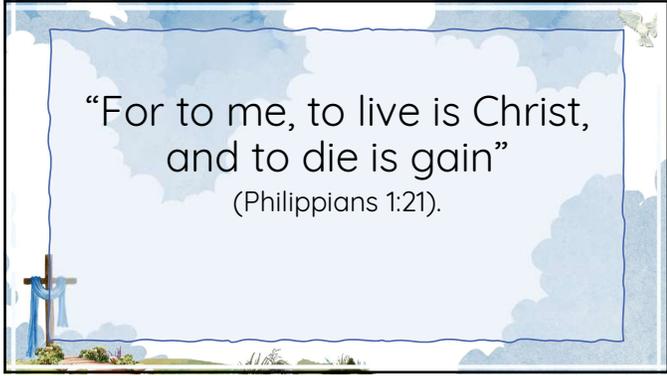
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