

# PHILIPPIANS

Rejoice In  
The Lord!

## Offer The Word

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Lesson Twenty-Five

# Philippians

## Rejoice In The Lord!

**Lesson Goal:** To assist students in seeing some of the behaviors God expects of us.

**Scriptures:** Philippians 2:14-16

**For Memory:** “Hold out the Word of life.” Philippians 12:16a

### Offer The Word

Last time, we said that Christians should shine. We were talking about being different than other people. We were talking about Christians who live like Jesus and when they do, they stand out in the crowd. They don't complain or argue. People don't point fingers at them, accusing them of being bad. They are blameless in God's eyes, and their lives are fully focused on Jesus. He considers them to be pure. People notice them because they behave differently. This standing out...the shining...has a purpose. That purpose is made clear in verse sixteen, our memory verse for today.

Those who stand out...living like Jesus...have a job to do. That job is to “offer the Word of life.”\* Let's first discuss what “Word” means here. The Word is the Gospel. The Gospel is the Good News. The Good News is God's gift of Jesus to the world. The Gospel began in the loving heart of God. He loved us so much that He gave His only Son. The Gospel tells us two specific things about Jesus. It tells us who He is and what He did.

He is God's unique Son. That means that He is one of a kind. When we ask Him to be our Savior and Lord of our life, we become children of God...sons and daughters. However, we are adopted children, Jesus is God's true and forever Son who has existed with God forever. He was born on earth as a human with Mary as His mother. He is also the one who God chose, from before the world was created, to become our Savior. This Son has now returned to Heaven and is sitting on a throne just to the right side of God the Father. He will sit there forever. He will one day judge all humans who ever lived and inform us of where we go after we die. That's who He is.

We said that the second thing the Gospel tells us is what Jesus did. He voluntarily came to earth. He lived a perfect life...He never did anything wrong. He selected and trained disciples who would carry on after He left the earth. He did miraculous things that no one else could. He then, voluntarily died on a cross, carrying all the sins of all humans into death so that the debt for all that sin was paid. (Romans 3:23) He promised, before He left the earth, that He would send God's Holy Spirit to help believers to live like we should live...like He lived. And the Gospel also tells us that after Jesus was murdered on the cross, He came back to life...He rose from the grave. All this and much more is what He did while He was on earth. When we see who He was and what He did, we have a better idea of how we should live and what this Gospel is...this Word is...that we are to offer. This is our testimony to all the world.

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We should remember that our memory verse says that it is the “Word of life.” The Gospel, the Word of God, gives life. Think about it this way: When a person is in a car wreck and the metal of the car gets so wrapped around the driver that he can’t get out and no one can get in to help him, the rescue people bring in the “jaws of life.” This is a strong mechanical lift that pushes the metal apart and makes it possible for the medics to get to the driver and rescue him. And, when a Christian person sees someone who is trapped in sin...who has no hope of getting free...the Christian offers the Gospel. It can give the person life. This life is given by Jesus when we believe the Gospel and ask Jesus to be our Lord. Take a look at “How to begin a Personal Relationship with God” on the Student Worksheet. That will help you know how to ask Jesus to be your Lord.

So, Paul is telling the folks at Philippi that because of what they have become: believers in Christ, they have the wonderful opportunity to “Hold out,” or to offer, the Word of life. That is the task and privilege of every Christian. Just before Jesus left the earth to go back to Heaven with God, He spoke what we call the “Great Commission.” In that assignment He told all Christians that we were to “make disciples” by offering the Good News to everyone.

\*Underlined statements in this Teacher’s Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher’s Guide.



### Teaching Tips:

1. You might want to compare Isaiah 9:6 with Galatians 4:4 and Romans 1:3, 4. There you will find the twofold description of Jesus. As a human child He was “born” or “made.” As the Son of God, divine, he was “given” or “sent” or “declared.”
2. Another interesting study is Jesus’ name. Ten times in Romans, Paul calls Him “Jesus Christ our Lord,” or “our Lord Jesus Christ.” He is Jesus, “Who will save His people from their sins” according to the angel (Matthew 1:21). He is Christ the Messiah (Acts 2:36). He is Lord (Acts 10:36).
3. Songs that emphasize the name of Jesus, God’s grace, imitating our Savior and Lord, and the Christian responsibility to tell the Good News are appropriate.
4. Pray with your students: Thank God for allowing them to be like Jesus, to have a part in doing His work, and being part of His plan here on earth. We are part of His plan as we live our lives and as we witness to those who are trapped in sin.

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### *Student Worksheet*

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**For Memory:** “Hold out the Word of life.” Philippians 12:16a

### Offer The Word

=Those who stand out...living like Jesus...have a \_\_\_\_\_ to do. That job is to “offer the Word of \_\_\_\_\_.”

=The Word is the \_\_\_\_\_. The Good News is God’s gift of \_\_\_\_\_ to the world.

He \_\_\_\_\_ us so much that He gave His only \_\_\_\_\_.

=Believers are adopted children, but Jesus is God’s true and forever \_\_\_\_\_ who has existed with God \_\_\_\_\_. This Son has now returned to \_\_\_\_\_.

=He voluntarily came to \_\_\_\_\_, lived a \_\_\_\_\_ life, did miraculous \_\_\_\_\_, died on a \_\_\_\_\_, sent God’s Holy \_\_\_\_\_, and rose from the \_\_\_\_\_.

=When a Christian person sees someone who is \_\_\_\_\_ in sin...who has no \_\_\_\_\_ of getting free...the Christian offers the \_\_\_\_\_. It can give the person \_\_\_\_\_.

This life is given by Jesus when we \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel and ask Jesus to be our Lord.

=Paul is telling the folks at Philippi that because of what they have become: \_\_\_\_\_

in Christ, they have the wonderful opportunity to “Hold out,” or to \_\_\_\_\_ the

Word of \_\_\_\_\_. That is the task and privilege of every \_\_\_\_\_.

### How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that there is a God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God’s Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus’ name. Jesus’ death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.

Fifth, believe that He has answered your prayer, and be determined to live for him all the rest of your life.