Family Take-Home



Dear Parents,

I am so excited your family is joining the Loma Vista family as we study the book of Philippians! This short take-home resource is designed to invite your children into the journey. Our goal is to start meaningful conversations and, hopefully, keep them going throughout the week. Here's how to make the most of these family study times:

- Start with prayer. Pray together as a family before you begin.
- Open God's Word. Show your children where the book of Philippians is located. Model for your children that all Scripture comes from God and that God's Word is our ultimate source of truth. Each week, we will start with the passage from Philippians that we studied in service.
- Adjust the reading as needed. I have rewritten it in language that should be easier for young elementary-aged children to understand. Since I cannot adapt the wording for every age and developmental level, please make adjustments or provide additional explanations as needed for your child. For older children, I highly encourage you to read directly from Scripture, either alongside the rewritten paragraph or in place of it.
- Use the questions as a starting point. Please treat the questions as a jumping-off point rather than a checklist. Keep the conversation flowing, encourage your children's curiosity, and use this time to build a routine of opening God's Word together.
- Discuss the Big Idea. I've kept the Big Idea wording exactly as our Pastors presented it in service. Take time to explain what it means in a way your child can understand.
- Make Scripture memorization fun. If the verse feels too difficult for your child to memorize, ask them to help keep you accountable as you memorize it. Invite them to remind you throughout the week and test you on it. Seeing you practice the discipline of Scripture memorization is incredibly valuable!

As you work through these studies together each week, make them a time of connection and joy. My hope is to encourage families to talk about what they learned in church, pray together, and memorize Scripture together. After you share what you learned in Big Church, ask your child what they learned in Kids' Church, too!

I am praying for all of you as we go through this series. My prayer is that it will draw you closer together, strengthen your relationships as a family, and deepen your relationship with God. Please reach out if there is ever a specific way we can pray for you and your family. Our LVKids team prays for all of you weekly, and we love knowing how to pray more intentionally.

Blessings,

Alicia Wagoner
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Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 1:1-6)

Hello, friends! I'm so happy when I think about you. Every time I pray, I smile because you are such good helpers. You've been my friends since the very beginning, and I know God is doing something wonderful in you. God started something good in your hearts, and He will keep working on it until it's all finished!

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon. What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

What good things does God do in our hearts after we trust in Jesus?

Paul said God will keep working on it, what does that mean? Does God ever stop helping us grow? (It's only finished in heaven!)



Sermon Big Idea:

God will never give up on the "good work" of sanctification in you by the power of His Holy Spirit until the day Jesus Christ returns.

Memory Verse:

[I am] confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
Philippians 1:6 NIV

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 1:7-11)

It is good that I think about you with so much love and keep you in my heart. Whether I am in prison or telling people about Jesus, we're all part of God's family together. God knows how much I care about you. I love you the way Jesus loves you!
This is what I pray for you: I pray that your love will grow bigger and bigger. I pray that you will learn more about God and understand Him better. I pray that you will be able to choose what is right. I want you to live in a way that follows what God says is good, so that when Jesus comes back, you will be ready. I pray that your life will be full of doing good things. That you will have the kind of good fruit that comes from knowing Jesus. When you live this way, everyone will see how great and wonderful God is!

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.
What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

When Paul prays for his friends, what kinds of things is he praying for? How can we pray for our friends?

Paul tells us to follow what God says is good and right. How does that help others to see who God is through us?



Sermon Big Idea:

Our salvation in Christ produces deep affections for one another and a growing, fruitful faith that brings glory to God our Father.

Memory Verse:

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
Romans 12:2

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 1:12-19)

I want you to know something important: Even though I'm in jail, more people are learning about Jesus! All the guards at the jail know that I'm here because I love Jesus. My friends who follow Jesus have become braver and are telling more people about Jesus too!
Now, some people tell others about Jesus for good reasons. They do it because they love Jesus and want to help others know Him. But some people tell others about Jesus for wrong reasons. They do it to show off or to make me feel bad while I'm in jail.

But it doesn't matter why they're doing it! What matters is that people are hearing about Jesus! And that makes me really happy! I'm going to keep being happy because I know God is taking care of me. You're praying for me, and God's Spirit is helping me. Everything is going to be okay!

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.
What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

It must be hard to be in jail, but is Paul happy or sad? Why do you think he feels that way?

What good news is still being talked about?

What helps Paul be brave and joyful?



Sermon Big Idea:

We can rejoice in whatever happens in our lives because God is using it to reveal the gospel of Jesus Christ through us.

Memory Verse:

The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.
Philippians 1:18

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 1:20-26)

I hope that I will be brave and always make Jesus look great! Whether I live or die, I want everyone to see how wonderful Jesus is.

For me, living means knowing Jesus and telling others about Him. And dying means I get to go to heaven and be with Jesus forever! Both are good! If I keep living here on earth, I can keep doing God's work and helping people. I really don't know if staying here or going to heaven is better!

Part of me really wants to go to heaven to be with Jesus. That would be the best! But I think you still need me here to help you learn and grow as you come to know Jesus more. So I believe God will let me stay alive and keep teaching you, so that you can have the joy that comes from knowing Jesus. Then when I see you again, you'll be so excited about Jesus and all He's done!

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.
What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

What good thing will happen if Paul dies?

What good things can Paul do if he stays alive?

Paul wants to make Jesus look great whether he lives or dies. How can we make Jesus look great in our lives?



Sermon Big Idea:

Jesus Christ can fill you with His joy and hope, while helping you realign your ambitions so that your life increasingly makes His name great.

Memory Verse:

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.
Philippians 1:20-21

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 1:27-2:2)

I want you to live in a way that shows you love Jesus. Whether I get to visit you or just hear news about you from far away, I hope to know that you're all like a team, working together to share about Jesus and not being afraid of people who don't like what you believe. Being part of God's family means you believe in Jesus, and sometimes that can be hard. Sometimes uou will struggle just like you have seen happen to me. But remember how much Jesus loves you and let that encourage you!

Please bring me joy by getting along, loving each other, and working together. You all have the same goal, which is to love Jesus and help others to know Him.

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

Paul says to live in a way that shows we love Jesus.
How can we do that?
(look at the rest of his message for help)

How can our family work together "like a team", the way Paul talked about?



Sermon Big Idea:

The traits of a worthy life reflects our citizenship in heaven and mirrors the character of Christ, which is made possible through the Holy Spirit.

Memory Verse:

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.
Philippians 1:27a

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 2:3-11)

Don't be selfish or think you're better than others. Instead, be humble and think about what other people need, not just what you want.

Try to be like Jesus. Even though Jesus is God, He didn't use His power to make Himself more important than the people He loved. Instead, He became a person just like us and served the people around Him. He was humble and always obeyed God completely, even when it meant dying on a cross.

Because Jesus did this, God gave Him the highest place of honor. One day, everyone in heaven and on earth will bow down and say, "Jesus Christ is Lord!" This brings glory to God the Father.

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

Paul tells us to be like Jesus. What did Jesus do that shows us how to treat others?

How can you be more like Jesus with your friends and family this week?

What amazing thing did Jesus do for us? How does knowing Jesus help us love other people?



Sermon Big Idea:

We are to follow in the footsteps of Christ by humbling ourselves, putting each other first and entrusting our status into the hands of an Almighty God.

Memory Verse:

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1b-2

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 2:12-18)

Therefore, just as you have always obeyed God, even when I'm not there with you, keep following Jesus and becoming more like Him, while showing great respect to God. Remember, it is God who helps you to make right choices and follow His plan.

Don't complain or argue with each other. Instead, be kind and loving so that people can see you are different. You will shine like bright stars in a dark sky, showing others who God is by following God's ways. Then in the end I can be so proud of your faith!

Even though following Jesus is hard work for me right now, I am full of joy. You should be happy too! Let's rejoice together!

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

Paul starts with "therefore", which means we need to remember what he told us last week. How does what he tells us this week add to what he said before?

Paul says to obey God. We know it's Jesus who did that perfectly so when we trust in Him we can go to heaven. Why, then, do we still obey God after we trust in Jesus? (look at our memory verse for extra help)



Sermon Big Idea:

We are to work out our salvation with words, actions, and lifestyles that demonstrate our changed lives for the glory of God and of Christ.

Memory Verse:

2 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands.
3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome...

1 John 5:2-3 NIV

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 2:19-30)

I hope to send Timothy to you soon. He really cares about you just like I do and will tell me how you are. Timothy is like a son to me, and helps me tell people about Jesus. Timothy is special. Most people only think about what they want, but Timothy thinks about what is best for you and for Jesus. I am sure the Lord will help me come see you soon too.

I also want to send my friend Epaphroditus back to you. You sent him to help me, and I care about him very much. But he got very sick and almost died. God was so kind and helped him get better. He wants to get back to you because he has missed you and was sad that you heard he was sick. When you see him again, be very glad and give him a big welcome! Honor people like him who love Jesus so much that they risk everything to serve Him. Epaphroditus did this for you.

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

Look at the way Paul describes Timothy. How is this an example for us?

Look at the way Paul describes Epaphroditus. How is this an example for us?

What can we do this week to live like these friends of Paul?



Sermon Big Idea:

Fellowship with faithful christians gives us concrete examples of the kind of selfless service and sacrificial love that come from following Jesus

Memory Verse:

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

1 Timothy 4:12

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 3:1-9)

My friends, be full of joy in the Lord! I don't mind telling you this again, because it helps keep you safe. Watch out for people who teach things that are not true about God. They say you have to do special things to earn God's love, but that's not how it works. We are God's people because we love and worship Him with the help of His Spirit. We are proud of Jesus, not of ourselves.

I could have lots of reasons to be proud of myself. I came from a good family. I learned God's rules and followed them very carefully. I worked very hard to do everything right. But none of that matters to me anymore. Knowing Jesus is the best thing in the whole world! It is worth so much more than everything else. I know I am not good enough on my own. Instead, I trust Jesus, because God makes us right with Him when we believe in Jesus.

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

Paul had lots of reasons to be proud of himself, but he said knowing Jesus is the best thing of all. What are some things people feel proud of? Why is Jesus even better?

Can we be good enough for God by ourselves? How did God make a way for us to be right with Him?



Sermon Big Idea:

To stand before the presence of a holy God we have to be made righteous, and the only righteousness that God accepts is from His Son, Jesus Christ.

Memory Verse:

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things.

Philippians 3:7-8a NIV

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 3:10-14)

My friends, my biggest wish is to know Jesus better and better. I want to know His great power, the same power that raised Him from the dead! I also want to be like Him, even when following Him is hard. One day I will be with Jesus forever.

I know I am not perfect yet, and I'm still learning. But I keep trying my very best, because Jesus has already chosen me as His own. I don't look back at my mistakes or worry about the past. I look ahead and keep going, like a runner racing to the finish line. I'm running toward the prize God has promised to everyone who puts their trust in Jesus. That is forgiveness and life forever in heaven!

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

Paul said he isn't perfect yet, but he keeps trying his best to follow Jesus. Why do we keep growing and learning about Jesus, even though we are already forgiven?

Paul said he is like a runner racing to the finish line. What are some ways we can keep "running" and following Jesus every day? What might make it hard?



Sermon Big Idea:

God the Father has invited all people into a relationship with Him, and to know Jesus Christ, His Son.

Memory Verse:

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.
Philippians 3:10-11 NIV

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 3:15-4:3)

My friends, let's keep following Jesus and keep doing what is right. If you're ever unsure about something, God will help you understand it. Follow my example, and watch other people who love Jesus and follow Him too. I'm sad to say that some people don't love Jesus. They only care about what they want and what they can have here on earth. But we are different! Our real home is in heaven, and we are waiting for Jesus to come back. When He does, He will make our bodies brand new. So stand strong in Jesus, my dear friends. I love you and miss you so much, and you make me so happy!
Euodia and Syntyche, I have a special message for you. Please get along and agree with each other, because you both love Jesus. And to my faithful friend, please help them make peace. These women have worked hard with me to tell people about Jesus, just like Clement and my other helpers. God knows each of their names, and they are written in His book of life.

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

Paul says to "stand strong" in Jesus. What does it look like to stand strong and keep following Jesus, even when it's hard?

What does Paul remind us about heaven and Jesus coming back?

Paul asked his friends to help each other and get along. How do our friends at church help us follow Jesus? How can we make sure we get along?



Sermon Big Idea:

From the moment of our salvation in Christ, God began in us the good work of becoming mature.

Memory Verse:

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 4:4-9)

My friends, be full of joy in the Lord, always! I'll say it again: be full of joy! Be gentle and kind to everyone, because the Lord is always near.
Don't worry about anything. Instead, talk to God about everything. Pray and tell Him what you need, and thank Him for all He has given you. When you do, God will give you a peace that is bigger than anything you can understand. His peace will watch over your hearts and your thoughts, because you belong to Jesus.
And here's what I want you to think about: things that are true, good, and right. Think about things that are pure, lovely, and worth celebrating. Do what you have learned from me and seen me do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Family Discussion Questions:

Paul was in prison, but he still said, "Be full of joy in the Lord!" Why can we be happy in Jesus, even on hard or sad days?

Paul says to think about things that are true, good, and lovely. What is something good or lovely you can think about when you feel worried or sad?

What should we do when we feel worried? What does God give us when we pray?



Sermon Big Idea:

Through Jesus Christ we can experience the peace of God in every circumstance and in all areas of our life.

Memory Verse:

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:4-6 NIV

Paul's message this week:

(Philippians 4:10-13)

My friends, I was so happy when I saw how much you care about me! I know you were thinking of me all along, and now you had a chance to show it. I'm not telling you this because I need anything. I have learned to be happy with what I have, no matter what.
I know what it's like to have very little, and I know what it's like to have plenty. I have learned the secret to being happy in every situation, whether I have a full tummy or an empty one, whether I have a lot or only a little. The secret is Jesus! I can do everything God asks me to do because Jesus gives me strength.



Parent Share Time!

Parents, take a few moments to share with your children about what you learned about this passage from this week's sermon.

What was your biggest takeaway?

Sermon Big Idea:

Jesus can give us the strength to be content, trusting in God's provision for everything we need.

Family Discussion Questions:

Paul says he is happy with what he has, no matter what. What does it mean to be "content," or happy with what you have? What makes it hard to feel that way sometimes?

Paul said, "I can do everything God asks me to do because Jesus gives me strength." What is something hard that Jesus can help you do?

What was Paul's secret to being happy, whether he had a lot or a little? How can that secret help us?

Memory Verse:

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.
Philippians 4:11-12 NIV