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Discipleship 101: Disciples who Suffer

Philippians 4:10-23



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We are suffering servants.

(Philippians 4:11-13)



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Philippians 1:1a Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus... (NIV®)



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Philippians 1:29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, (NIV®)



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Philippians 1:29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, (NIV®)

Philippians 2:17 But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. (NIV®)



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Philippians 4:11b-13 ...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. I can do all this through him who gives me strength. (NIV®)



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We are suffering servants.

Philippians 3:10-11 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. (NIV®)



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We are suffering servants who pray.

(Philippians 4:14, 17-20)



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- **Philippians 1:3-11** — Paul prays gratefully, joyfully, confidently, and affectionately for love, discernment, purity, and fruit.



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We are suffering servants who pray.

- **Philippians 1:3-11** — Paul prays gratefully, joyfully, confidently, and affectionately for love, discernment, purity, and fruit.
- **Philippians 4:6-7** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (NIV®)



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We are suffering servants who pray.

Philippians 1:9, 11 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight... 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. (NIV®)



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We are suffering servants who pray.

Philippians 1:14, 17, 20 Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble...
17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit....
20 To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. (ESV)

Question: Why is the wealthiest church in world history declining in both size and cultural influence?

...Somewhere along the way, unintentionally and gradually, we moved our feet of faith away from desperate dependence on the resurrection of Christ, away from the Holy Spirit as our only source of power, away from desperate times of prayer.

– John Dickerson in *Old Paths, New Power*



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We are suffering servants who pray and
who live unified, humble, and joyful lives.

(Philippians 4:10, 15-16)



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



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1) Unity (Phil 1:26-30)



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Philippians 1:27b ...whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel (NIV®)



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2) Humility (Phil 2:1-11)



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2) Humility (Phil 2:1-11)

Philippians 2:3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, (NIV®)



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3) Joy (Phil 2:12-18)



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3) Joy (Phil 2:12-18)

Philippians 2:14, 17b-18 Do everything without grumbling or arguing...
17b ...I am glad and rejoice with all of you. So you too should be glad and rejoice with me. (NIV®)



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We are suffering servants who pray, who live unified, humble, and joyful lives, and who find our all in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:21-23)



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Philippians 1:6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (NIV®)



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Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (NIV®)



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Philippians 3:8-9a 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. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ...(NIV®)



We are suffering servants who pray, who live unified, humble, and joyful lives, and who find our all in Christ Jesus.