

THE BOOK OF  
**PHILIPPIANS**  
“My Joy and Crown”

**WEEK TWELVE:**  
**Following & Leading**  
**vs. Being an Enemy**

**Read Philippians 3:17 and put it into your own words. Try reading it in the Message version or Contemporary English Version.**

1. This verse is divided into 2 parts. What are they (I will also mention this in the video)?
2. What are some of the things Paul has mentioned so far in this book that will help you imitate him?
3. The second part of this verse says to, “keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.” Who in your life do you keep your eyes on?
4. Is the Christian life easier with other Christians or alone? Why and why not?

**Read Philippians 3:18-19 and put it in your own words. Try reading it in the Message version or the Contemporary English Version.**

1. Paul says thinking of “enemies of the cross” bring him to tears? Why? Are we brought to tears by them?
2. What 4 things are represented or seen in an “enem[y] of the cross”?
3. Why do people refuse to come to Jesus when they know their “end is destruction”? Do they know? How do we tell them in a way that invites them to Christ?
4. What does Paul mean, “their god is their belly,”? Does that have to do with fat people? Could it mean something more? How does a person make their belly a god?
5. Paul also says they “glory in their shame”. What does that look like back then and today? Are there people that glory in “shame”? Are there shameful things you glory in?
6. The fourth thing is, “their minds are set on earthly things.” What are earthly things? How do those make us an enemy of the cross? Are there earthly things we should focus on? What does Paul mean?

**Read Philippians 3:20-21 and put it in your own words. Try reading it in the Message version or the Contemporary English Version.**

1. Where does Paul say our “citizenship” should be? Does that mean we are not a citizen of our country or should not act like citizens of America (or wherever you live)? How does this look?
2. What or who, then, are we supposed to wait for? Why? What if I only wait for heaven? Am I missing something here?
3. What will Jesus do to the bodies of those who wait for Him? How do you think we will look in our “glorious” bodies? Will I recognize you?
4. What does the phrase, “by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself” mean? Why does Paul throw this in at the end of this topic? Do you find hope in it? Why or why not?