

A STUDY IN PHILIPPIANS

By Susan Reimer
From the novel *Embers*

PHILIPPIANS 1 – PREPARATION

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 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. (Philippians 1:3–6)

1. What does this verse mean to you?
2. What is the “good work” the verse points to?
3. How can you be confident in this promise?

PHILIPPIANS 2 – PURPOSE

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.
(Philippians 2:12–13)

1. How does this verse apply to your daily lives? Think about school or home life. Can you think of any examples of when you've had to make a difficult decision? Explain how you came up with a solution.

2. How does God work with us to fulfill His purposes for us?

3. How should the world see us?

PHILIPPIANS 3 – PERSEVERANCE

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:14)

1. What is our goal as Christians?
2. What does “press on” mean? How do we do this in tough times?
3. In your own life, what are you facing that you have to persevere through?

