

‘At Home’ with the Bible

The short New Testament book of Philippians makes for an interesting read. It’s simply a letter to the early Church in the city of Philippi (modern Filippi in Greece). Written by St Paul while he was isolated (in prison!) and addressed to people living through challenging circumstances it has some topical resonances with our situation during the Coronavirus crisis. Though times are tough Paul’s outlook is positive and hopeful: he sees opportunity in restriction and he’s laying plans for the future. It takes just 20 minutes to read through whole letter but for a quick dip here’s a few memorable quotes ...

“... in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” (2:3-4)

“... this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal.” (3:13-14)
“The Lord is near. ... in everything by prayer ... let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (4:5-7)

“... whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable ... think about these things.” (4:8)

“... for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty ... I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” (4:12-13)

‘At Home’ is a get together on Zoom each Thursday at 7pm for 6 weeks. Philippians is the focus for our chat with everyone contributing their thoughts. With just 40 minutes together we are sticking to the passages that seem most relevant to our present circumstances.

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