

“Thanking God For Memories”

Philippians 1:1-11

Memory

Two middle-aged couples were enjoying friendly conversation when one of the men asked the other, "Fred, how was the memory clinic you went to last month?"

"Outstanding," Fred replied. "They taught us all the latest psychological techniques, like visualization, association, and so on. It was great. I haven't had a problem since."

"Sounds like something I could use. What was the name of the clinic?"

Fred went blank. He thought and thought, but couldn't remember. Then a smile broke across his face and he asked, "What do you call that flower with the long stem and thorns?"

"You mean a rose?"

"Yes, that's it!"

He turned to his wife, "Hey Rose, what was the name of that memory clinic?"

(from Mikey's Funnies)

Philippians 1:1-3

1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

2 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,

“Thanking God for Memories”

- Lasting Memories

1. Every Prayer

Philippians 1:4

4 Always in every prayer of mine for you
all making request with joy,

- Prayer

– Greek – deh'-ay-sis (a petition)

2. Fellowship in the Gospel

Philippians 1:5

5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

3. Spiritual Growth

Philippians 1:6

6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

4. Partakers of Grace

Philippians 1:7

7 Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace.

“Thanking God for Memories”

- Lasting Memories
- Longing Mercifully

Memories

J. Michael Shannon

College professor and business speaker Steve Boyd tells of getting into a cab to get from the airport to downtown Chicago. He noticed that the cab was immaculate and complimented the cab driver. As they talked together, the cab driver asked Boyd if he remembered Sam Cooke. Boyd replied that he remembered him well. The cab driver revealed that he had been Sam Cooke's backup singer and had sung the high notes on the song "Cupid." The cab driver proceeded to sing "Cupid" for his rider. Boyd's response was that he had taken many cab drives, but what made this one memorable was that the man had given him more than a ride; he had given him a memory.

Longing Mercifully

Philippians 1:8

8 For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.

“Thanking God for Memories”

- Lasting Memories
- Longing Mercifully
- Loving Meaningfully

Loving Meaningfully

Philippians 1:9-11

9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.

11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

- Sincere

– Greek – *hērlē* (the sun’s ray / purity)

Loving Meaningfully

Philippians 1:9-11

9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.

11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

- When you ponder whether to engage in some activity, it is a much better way to live to constantly ask yourself, “What is excellent about it?” rather than, “What’s wrong with it?”

- Charles Stanley

Sinners

Robert C. Shannon

As everyone who has a bird feeder knows, a squirrel is very persistent in raiding the bird feeder. One scares them away only to have them return in minutes.

Those who have studied squirrels say that the reason is this: a squirrel has no memory of fear. So no matter how often the owner of the bird feeder scares him away, he will return. Sinners are like that. Sin brings deep dark feelings of guilt, anxiety, regret and often fear. Yet those terrible results of sin are quickly forgotten when temptation presents itself again.
