

MINISTRY PHILOSOPHY

Philippians 1:1-2

Who are you and why are you here?

I. WHO AM I?

- I am a part of Christ's servant team

A. I AM A SERVANT

1. Voluntarily bound to another: Not forced labor but voluntary service
2. Not a celebrity: This is not a glamorous job
3. This is who he is not just what he does: Always be a servant

B. I AM SUBJECTED

1. A servant of Jesus Christ: Under Christ's authority
2. Taking orders from Him: Being attentive to His call and my commission
3. Under obligation: We are to be loyal to our owner - I Cor.6:20

C. I AM NOT SOLO

1. A Team: Paul & Timothy > Paul is rarely alone
2. A Humility: No one man shows no Lone Rangers!

D. SUMMARY:

1. Who am I?
- Paul says, "I am a part of Christ's servant team"
2. Who are you?
- Servant, surrendered, selfish, solo?

II. WHY AM I HERE?

- I am here to encourage Christ's saints

A. TO ADDRESS SAINTS

1. Addressing saints
- "Saints" are those set apart to Christ, holy ones > I Pt.1:15-16
2. Addressing all the saints in Christ
 - a. Those who are "in Christ" have His righteousness imputed to them - See Eph. 2:4-6
 - b. Serving and addressing all the saints without prejudice or favoritism - cf. James 2
3. Addressing saints in a local church > At Philippi
4. Addressing saints in a local and organized church
 - a. With Overseers: Organizers
 - b. And Deacons: Ministers

Over please >

B. TO INSPIRE HOPE (2)

1. The Message: Encouraging words!
 - a. Grace: A typically Gentile greeting
 - Wishing you God's best!
 - b. Peace! A typically Hebrew greeting > "Shalom"
 - This is his wish that they have a quiet heart resting in God
 - See Rom. 5:1 and Is. 26:3
2. The Source: From God
 - a. Our Father
 - b. And the Lord Jesus Christ

C. SUMMARY:

1. Why am I here?
 - Paul tells us, "I am here to encourage Christ's saints"
2. Why are you here?
 - To commune or complain, to inspire or infuriate?

CONCLUSION:

What is your ministry philosophy?

1. Who are you?
 - Are you a part of our Savior's servant team?
2. Why are you here?
 - Are you here to serve local church saints with a message of encouragement from God?

Might we be able to honestly say:

My life is all about Jesus Christ ... Being His servant and serving His saints