

HOW DO YOU SAY GOOD-BYE?

Philippians 4:20-23

Paul gives us good-bye guidelines

I. GIVE GLORY TO GOD (20)

A. THE ADORATION

1. A recognition and reporting of God's majesty and magnificence
2. Causing God to stand out ... Making God shine!

B. HIS ATTRIBUTES

1. Powerful: Our God
2. Personal: Our Father (See Gal. 4:5-7 and Rom. 8:15-17)

C. THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

1. Now: There is never a time when assigning glory to God is out of place!
2. Forever and ever: Never stop!
3. The concept: Right now in whatever circumstances, honor God and never stop!

D. THE AFFIRMATION: "Amen"

1. A confirmation and confession
2. Meaning: "Indeed" or "so be it" or "absolutely"

**** It is good to glorify God when saying good-bye!**

II. SEND GREETINGS TO ALL (21-22)

A. GREETING PRINCIPLES (21a)

1. Be Joyous
2. Be Christian: Greet saints in a Christian manner
3. Be All-Inclusive
 - a. Greet every saint > Every individual one ... not all at once
 - b. Since these "holy ones" are accepted by Christ, how can we reject them?

Over please >

B. SPECIFIC GREETINGS (21b-22)

1. From Paul's Coworkers (21b)
 - a. Timothy (2:19-23)
 - b. Epaphroditus (2:25-30)
2. From Paul's Church (22a)
 - All the brethren from the church in Rome
3. From Paul's Small Group (22b)
 - Caesar's Household: The imperial family, political associates and house servants

**** It is good to acknowledge all Believers when saying good-bye.**

III. WISH GRACE UPON OTHERS (23)

A. THE SUSTENANCE

1. Grace: God's unmerited favor
2. God's sustaining grace is needed, not just His saving grace

B. THE PRESENCE

1. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit
 - Not above, below or behind ... but beside!
2. With you > Actively present (See Psalm 18:35)

C. THE PROVISION

1. With your spirit
2. Inspiring us from within ... breathing new life into weary hearts and minds

**** It is good to wish grace upon others when saying good-bye.**

CONCLUSION:

So Paul seals his letter and hands it to Epaphroditus with a hug ... while reminding God's people to say good-bye ...

1. Giving God glory (20)
2. Greeting all Believers (21-22)
3. Wishing grace upon others (23)

Let us be blessed and a blessing as we wave and say to others "God be with ye!"