

# PHILIPPIANS

Finding Joy in Every Season



Let's review what we learned last week. Do you remember what an epistle is? That's right, it's a *letter*! Can you recall where Philippi was located in Europe? *Modern day Greece*.

Great! Today we will look deeper into the greeting that Paul wrote this church in Philippi. Last week we saw that he was writing to the 'set apart/holy ones' or saints at Philippi. Are you considered a saint if your faith is in Jesus?

Today, we will go on to see Paul's great affection for this church in Philippi. He blesses the church and overflows with thanksgiving, joy and prayer for them!

## FOR DISCUSSION

1. Who are some of the people that come to mind that teach you about Jesus and the Word of God?
2. Do you have any friends that pull you closer to the Lord? Do you have any friends that pull you away from the Lord and His commands? What kind of friends do you want to have? Look up Proverbs 13:20 and discuss with your parents.

## DIG DEEPER

### Read Philippians 1:2

When we begin or end a letter, we might say something like "I wish you well", "God bless you" or "I hope you have a good day".

3. What does Paul desire for them?

\_\_\_\_\_ to you and \_\_\_\_\_ from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul's greeting was combining a Greek greeting of 'grace' with a Hebrew blessing of 'peace' in verse 2. Let's explore what grace & peace mean.

**Grace is getting what we don't deserve.** Do you like gifts? We don't work for gifts do we? They are given to us, not because we've worked for them, but as a present from the giver. In the same way, we don't work for forgiveness, but we receive it through turning away from sin and believing in Christ. We don't *deserve* eternal life, but we receive it through faith. It is a GIFT from God! Thank the Lord for His gracious gift to us!

**Paul also desires His readers to know the peace of God. What comes to your mind when you think about peace?** *\*Calmness of heart & freedom from worry*

*Did you know God says 'do not worry' to His children? See Matthew 6:25-34. He wants you to trust Him as a good Shepherd who watches over you, cares for you, guides you and protects you!*

4. When are you most afraid? What do you worry about?
5. What can you do to remember that God is with you and is watching over you?

**Read Philippians 1:3-8**

6. How does Paul feel about the Philippian Christians? Why does he feel this way about them? What are they partnering in?

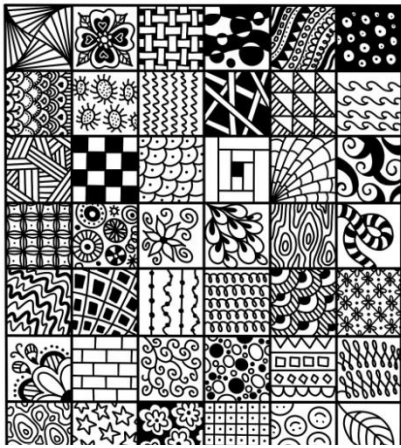
## PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the leadership of your church (the overseers and deacons)
- Ask God to help you know that He is your Shepherd who loves you and watches over you.
- Thank God for the people in your life that teach you about Jesus (parents, grandparents, Sunday School teachers, Christian teachers, etc.).



## Doodle Activity

### Step 1



There is a worksheet attached with some simple doodle patterns. Click below to access the worksheet online in the full size: <https://cdn.filestackcontent.com/DhHFVRTej2qJc9Yspkwf>

You can use these patterns... or come up with your own patterns!

### Step 2



Look at the word GRACE. This is a word that summarizes what the lesson was about today! GRACE also is mentioned at the beginning of this epistle and the end of this epistle, so it is a very important word to understand.

Divide the letters into smaller spaces. They can be curvy lines, straight lines, zig-saggy lines. Your choice!

### Step 3

Fill each section of your letter with a different doodle pattern.



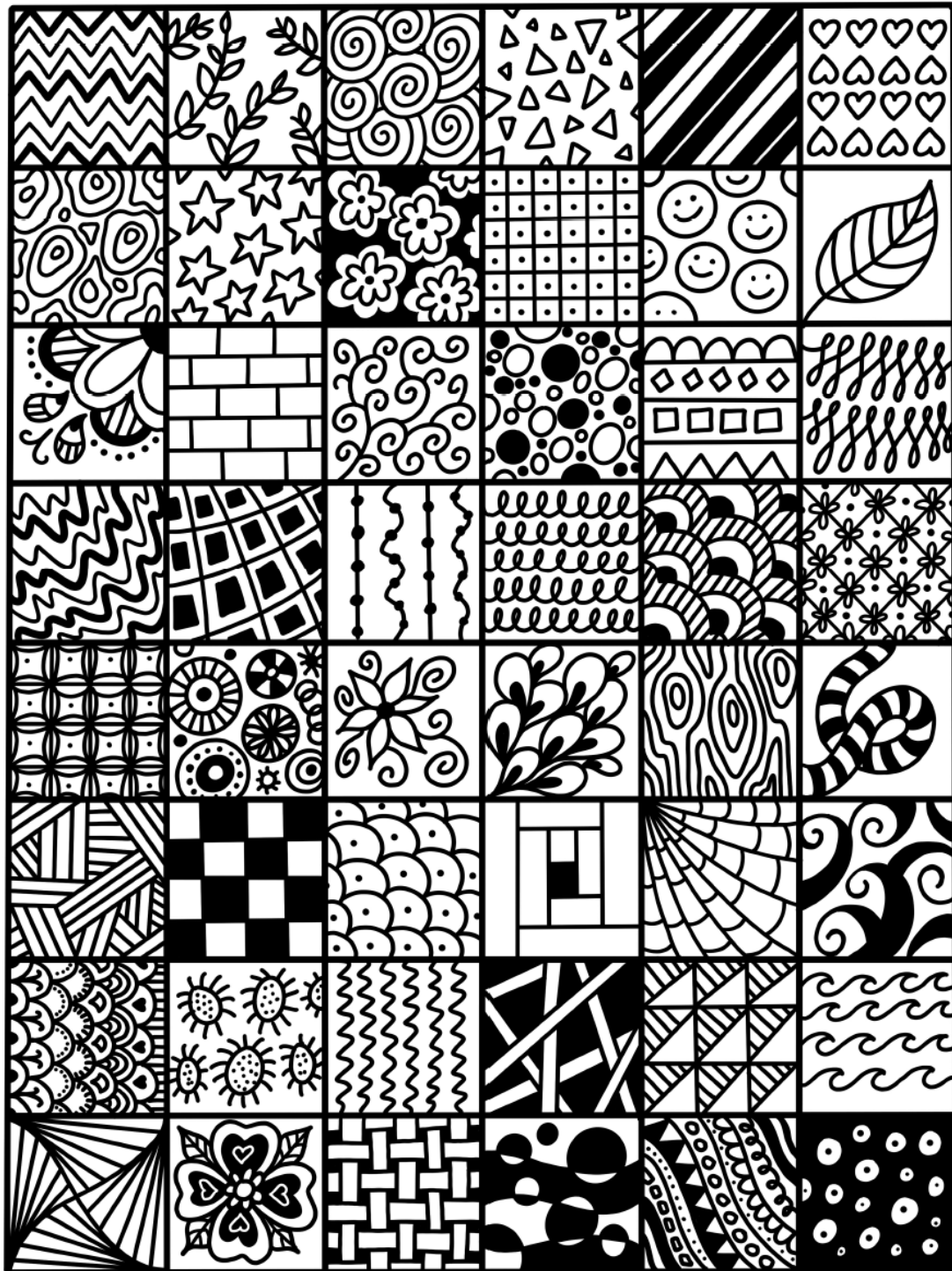
### Step 4

If you want to, color it in!



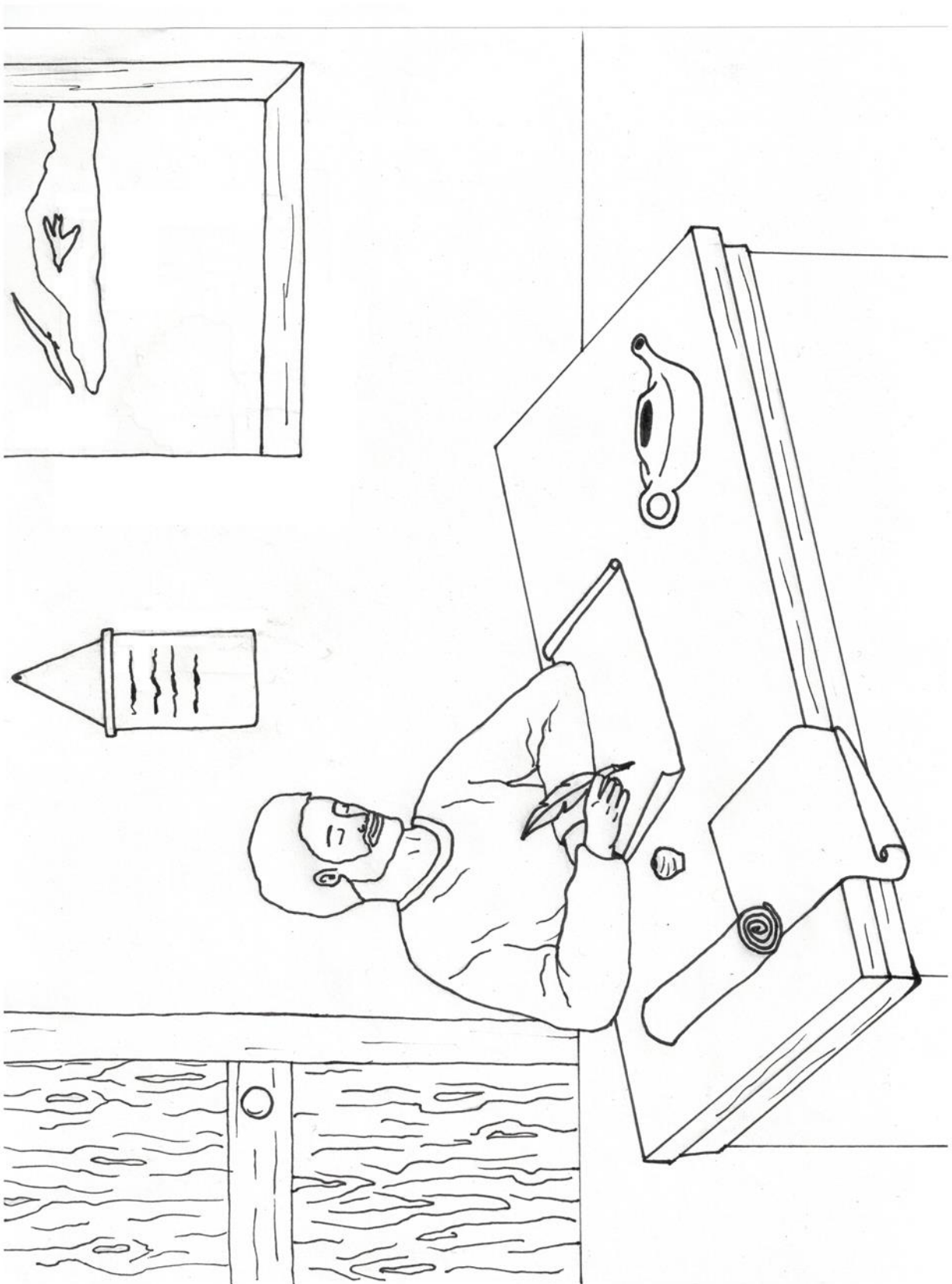
For access to the crossword below in full size: click this [link](#).

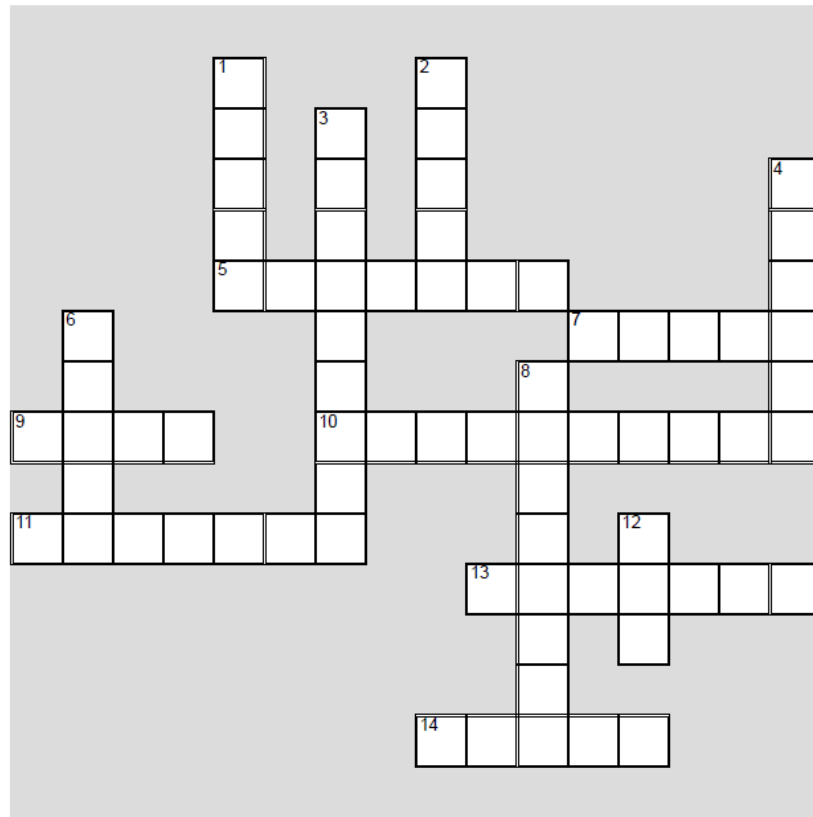
# Doodle Patterns











### Across

- 5** A slave
- 7** An undeserved gift from God; getting what we do not deserve
- 9** Author of the letter to the Philippians; apostle
- 10** A sudden and violent shaking of the ground that caused the prison doors to fly open and the chains to come loose
- 11** An office in the church that focuses on serving the needs of the Body of Christ to free the pastors up to focus on the Word and prayer
- 13** Co-labourer with Paul
- 14** A holy one; a person set apart from the world and set apart for God & His purposes

### Down

- 1** Paul & Silas were singing these in prison around midnight
- 2** A seller of purple cloth whose heart God opened to respond to the gospel
- 3** Elders/Pastors who lead the church
- 4** Philippi is located in this modern day country
- 6** A state of calmness or quietness of Spirit; freedom from conflict and worry
- 8** The location of the church to which Paul was writing
- 12** A deep happiness that is not dependent on present circumstances