

## **Shining as Stars—Philippians 2:12–18**

### **Open It**

1. Would you prefer to explore the universe aboard a spacecraft or looking through a powerful telescope? Why?
2. What do you most enjoy about the nighttime sky?

### **Philippians 2:12–18 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,

<sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

<sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or disputing,

<sup>15</sup>that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

<sup>16</sup>holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

<sup>17</sup>Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

<sup>18</sup>Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

### **Explore It**

3. What were the Philippian believers to work out? (2:12–13)
4. How would God help the Philippians obey Him? (2:13)
5. What instructions did Paul give in relation to everyday Christian living? (2:14–16)
6. Why did the Philippian Church need to “shine as lights” to unbelievers? (2:14–16)
7. What would enable Paul to boast about the Philippians? (2:14–16)
8. \*How did Paul view his own life and the faith of the Philippian believers? (2:17)
9. What did Paul want his friends at Philippi to experience? (2:18)

### **Get It**

10. What godly qualities make Christians “shine like stars”?
11. How does shining for Christ encourage others to be drawn to Him?

### **Apply It**

12. In what situations this week do you need to make a conscious effort not to complain or argue?
13. Before whom do you want to shine in your place of work or neighborhood? In what ways can you do so?