

# The Letter to the Philippians

with Allen Hilton

## CLASS SCHEDULE

Yale  
DIVINITY SCHOOL

Yale Bible Study

### 14JULY The People and Their Apostle in Philippians 1

*In this session, we meet the players in this drama and the plot of their connection to one another. Their mutual affection is clear. We'll trace its origin in their history together and begin to discern Paul's purpose in his work with them. We'll also sit with Paul in prison and listen to his thoughts while he's there.*

Reading: Philippians 1 and Acts 16.16--40

### 21JULY The Key to Community in Philippians 2

*In our lonely and communally challenged times, it's important to remember that Paul's day job was to build connected, cohesive communities of faith – and he seems to have been quite good at it. In Philippians 2, he summons the example of Jesus to tell his Philippians how that is done. It's worth a listen.*

Reading: Philippians 1.12—2.30

### 28JULY The Upward Calling in Philippians 3

*Paul traded in his formidable resume on the Damascus road. In this session we'll see what he got in return. As we do, we'll touch Paul's rivalry with the circumcision party, his former climb up the ladder of Judaic learning, and ultimately the enduring, transformative impact of his encounter with Jesus.*

Reading: Philippians 3 and Galatians 1—2

### 04AUG The Mindfulness of Joy in Philippians 4

*The letter spends a whole lot of its energy building connection between the Christians in Philippi, and that never stops. But in the last section, Paul reveals the internal spiritual practices that sustain him and will sustain each of them. The letter ends where it started: in the close connection between Paul and the Philippians through their generous support of his work.*

Reading: Philippians 4