



## MARCH 2011 TEACHING PLANS

### TO THE CHURCH AT \_\_\_\_\_ : LOSE YOURSELF

BY SHARON HODDE MILLER

Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon are three of Paul’s four famous Prison Epistles. He wrote these letters while imprisoned in Rome, awaiting his eventual execution.

Filled with inspiring passion and conviction, these letters barely mention his grim circumstances. In years prior, he’d been arrested in Jerusalem, then tossed around the Roman judicial system until he was finally sent to Rome.

Picturing Paul writing these letters from prison may conjure up images like the Pit of Despair from *The Princess Bride* — dark, damp, and walled with torture devices. But Paul’s imprisonment simply kept him under house arrest, so he had a remarkable amount of freedom. Like today’s prisoners under house arrest, Paul also had his own version of an ankle bracelet: a prison guard bound to his hand at all times.

For most people, the constant presence of a Roman guard would’ve been discouraging. However, Paul saw his imprisonment as a new kind of mission — sharing the gospel with each guard who cycled through his house. He also took advantage of his freedom to write letters and receive visitors.

As you read these letters, consider Paul’s mind-set. At the end of his life, he’s asking new church congregations to carry on his legacy of faithfulness with the same passion and commitment he displayed. God desires the same of you.

As you consider the legacy you’ll leave on your college campus, as well as God’s call for your future, what will it be? Will it be defined by mediocrity or by full surrender to God in radical acts of obedience? (And

check your heart: Is it set on bringing God or you glory through those radical acts?) To live that life of surrender, dwell on Paul’s keys to living the gospel in complete abandon to Christ.

### WHAT’S INSIDE ...

The goal of the Collegiate online features is to bring you a structured teaching plan with additional helps and relevant questions to equip you to lead a strong discussion-based lesson. Here’s a breakdown of what’s inside: “Getting Started” helps introduce the topic and get your students engaged in the lesson. “Need-to-Knows” provide the lesson overview and key verses of each lesson. “Explore the Bible” leads your students through the Scripture passages of the lesson, helping them understand the text, its historical and cultural context, and what it means to them today. “Apply to Life” gives you ideas for furthering the application of the Scripture, so students can take active steps to process what they’re learning and how it impacts their lives. Be sure you also use the commentary provided ([threadsmedia.com/collegiate](http://threadsmedia.com/collegiate)) to help with your preparation and personal study of the lessons.

As always, we’re here for you. Please send us your questions, thoughts, and suggestions. Let us know what we could do better and how these teaching plans could be even more relevant to your students and ministry.

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## THIS WEEK YOU'LL NEED

- A COPY OF THIS LEADER GUIDE
- THIS WEEK'S LESSON ON PAGES 28-29 OF *COLLEGIATE'S* SPRING ISSUE
- THE SONG "YOU AND I" BY CHRIS AUGUST FROM THE ALBUM *NO FAR AWAY*

## NEED TO KNOWS

### LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson is about Paul's gratitude for how the Philippians joined him in spreading the gospel. The emphasis is on working with other Christians to spread the gospel. The lesson encourages college students to join other Christians in evangelistic efforts.

### FOCAL PASSAGES

PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11



## HOW TO BE FRIENDS FOREVER

### GETTING STARTED

Begin by asking your students if they're familiar with the term "frenemy." Can anyone define it?

*UrbanDictionary.com* defines this term as "someone who is both friend and enemy; a relationship that is both mutually beneficial or dependent while being competitive; fraught with risk and mistrust."

- Why do you think this term has become so popular in recent years?
- How does this term reflect our culture's understanding of friendship?
- Do you think most Christians have "frenemies"?

As humans, we're naturally competitive. That's a direct result of our pride. The problem with competition is that it stifles effective friendships. The purpose of God-centered friendship is to love and serve God, but we can't accomplish this purpose if we're too busy contending with one another.

In this lesson, we'll take a look at the marks of effective Christian friendship so that we can reclaim our friendships from their "frenemy" status, and instead learn to have strategic friendship for the kingdom of God.

### DIG DEEPER

Refer to "Dig Deeper" on page 28 in the Spring 2011 issue of *Collegiate* magazine for a thought-provoking quote and a correlating Scripture illustration that relates to the lesson topic.

# EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Have someone read the introduction to the session on page 28 of *Collegiate's* Spring 2011 issue.

## 1) GRACE-FILLED FRIENDSHIP

### READ PHILIPPIANS 1:1-2.

<sup>1</sup> Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus: To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons. <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Have someone read “Grace-Filled Friendship” on page 28 of *Collegiate*.

Imagine reconnecting with a great friend from high school who you haven’t seen in years. Even though you went to different schools and parted ways, you still feel close to them and you’ve missed them a lot. One day, you decide to see what they’re up to, so you send them an e-mail.

- If you were in this situation, how would you begin that e-mail? What would be the very first thing you would say?

Paul does what most of us would do in this situation: He tells the Philippians how much he loves them and misses them. But not until verse 3. Surprisingly, his first words are all about Jesus. Ask the students to reflect on Paul’s words:

- The Philippians already knew that Paul was a Christian. Why, then, would Paul need to identify himself as a “slave” of Christ Jesus?
- Before Paul says anything about his friendship with the church, he mentions “God” or “Jesus” four times in the first two verses. What does this tell us about Paul’s friendship with the Philippians?

Paul’s example is a reminder that having a Christ-centered friendship involves intentionality. Christ must be

consciously placed at the center of every friendship, even when it seems obvious. Otherwise it’s tempting to let other things, like shared experiences or preferences, become central instead.

## 2) FRIENDSHIP THAT PERSEVERES

### READ PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6.

<sup>3</sup> I give thanks to my God for every remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup> always praying with joy for all of you in my every prayer, <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> I am sure of this, that He who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Have someone read “Friendship that Perseveres” on page 28 of *Collegiate*.

In verse 6, Paul refers to a “work” that God began in his Philippian friends.

- What “work” was he referring to?
- Is God’s ability to work in us ever hindered by our circumstances?

In the face of challenging circumstances, Paul reminds the Philippians of God’s unchanging character as He works on our behalf.

- What does Paul’s example of Christian encouragement tell us about how we should encourage others?
- After encouraging a friend, should we expect him or her to immediately smile, praise the Lord, and move on from the pain or fear they’re experiencing?

Christian friendship isn’t about belittling the pain of a break-up, an uncertain future, or a parent’s divorce. Strategic friendship simply means we don’t abandon our friends in that place. With gentleness and love, Christian

friends direct one another back to the truth about who God is. In doing so, they equip one another to press on.

## 3) INTIMATE FRIENDSHIP

### READ PHILIPPIANS 1:7-8.

<sup>7</sup> It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, and you are all partners with me in grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and establishment of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how deeply I miss all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

Have someone read “Intimate Friendship” on page 28 of *Collegiate*.

In verse 7, Paul described the Philippians as partners in grace — in his imprisonment, in his defense, and in the establishment of the gospel.

- The Philippians were far away from Paul, so how could they have been partners in Paul’s imprisonment?
- What did Paul mean by saying they were also “partners in grace?”

To paraphrase Paul’s words in verse 7, he said that the Philippians were with him in the good times and bad times.

- What does it mean to be with someone in the good times and bad times?
- Why is this an important aspect of close friendship?

Imagine one of your close friends loses a family member, fails an important exam, or is struggling with being single.

- How does “partnering” with a friend during these dark moments relate to your partnership in “establishing the gospel”?





## THIS WEEK YOU'LL NEED

- A COPY OF THIS LEADER GUIDE
- THIS WEEK'S LESSON ON PAGES 30-32 OF *COLLEGIATE'S* SPRING ISSUE
- THE SONG "BEAUTIFUL THINGS" BY GUNGOR FROM THE ALBUM *BEAUTIFUL THINGS*
- A CHALKBOARD, DRY-ERASE BOARD, OR EASEL WITH A LARGE SHEET OF PAPER FOR THE OPTION 1 "APPLY TO LIFE" ACTIVITY

## NEED TO KNOWS

### LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson is about Paul's understanding that his imprisonment had helped advance the gospel. The emphasis is on using opportunities in different situations to spread the gospel. The lesson encourages college students to call attention to the gospel amid all situations.

### FOCAL PASSAGES

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-26



## GOD IS BIGGER ...

### GETTING STARTED

According to a study conducted by LifeWay Research, approximately 88 percent of evangelical young adults leave the church shortly after graduating from high school. Spend some time reflecting with your students on the cause of this mass departure from the Christian faith.

- What are some of the main obstacles to the Christian faith that college students encounter?
- Why do you think college students are unprepared for the spiritual challenges they face when they leave home?

Christians abandon their faith for a lot of different reasons, but at the heart of each decision to walk away from Jesus is a misunderstanding about God. This lesson presents four of the main reasons people either reject God or doubt His character. At the heart of each reason is a fundamental disconnect with who God truly is.

### DIG DEEPER

Refer to "Dig Deeper" on page 30 in the Spring 2011 issue of *Collegiate* magazine for an in-depth further study and a biblical fact that relates to the lesson topic.

# EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Have someone read the introduction to the session on page 30 of *Collegiate's* Spring 2011 issue.

## 1) THAN OUR LIMITATIONS

### READ PHILIPPIANS 1:12-14.

<sup>12</sup> Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has actually resulted in the advance of the gospel, <sup>13</sup> so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard, and to everyone else, that my imprisonment is in the cause of Christ. <sup>14</sup> Most of the brothers in the Lord have gained confidence from my imprisonment and dare even more to speak the message fearlessly.

Have someone read “Than Our Limitations” on page 30 of *Collegiate*.

Consider the following scenarios in which we often feel limited by our circumstances or abilities. Ask students to call out answers about what limitations prevent Christians from accomplishing the goals below. Then ask them to imagine how God can overcome these limitations:

- Sharing the gospel with your roommate, hallmates, classmates, or other students on campus
- Defending your faith in class
- Learning to be content in being single
- Making time for God each day
- Loving God through difficult or challenging circumstances

Each of the above items is a goal of the Christian life. But because we live in a fallen world, there will always be obstacles that hinder us from pursuing them. The ultimate question behind each one is whether our spiritual lives are limited by our circumstances, abilities, or simply a lack of faith. Sometimes the greatest limitation is our imagination.

## 2) THAN OUR SELFISH MOTIVES

### READ PHILIPPIANS 1:15-18A.

<sup>15</sup> To be sure, some preach Christ out of envy and strife, but others out of good will. <sup>16</sup> These do so out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; <sup>17</sup> the others proclaim Christ out of rivalry, not sincerely, seeking to cause me anxiety in my imprisonment. <sup>18a</sup> What does it matter? Just that in every way, whether out of false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed.

Have someone read “Than Our Selfish Motives” on page 30 of *Collegiate*.

There’s one important difference between Christians of today and the Philippians: the size of the church. Two thousand years ago, there weren’t as many Christians because the church had just been born. Today, there are millions of Christians in America alone.

As a result, it’s much easier for Christians to criticize one another from a distance without direct consequences. The anonymity of our size and distance allows Christians to blog mean-hearted critiques of believers they don’t like or agree with — and without ever seeing the person face-to-face.

- In light of this growing trend, what do you notice about Paul’s response to the Christians who oppose him? How is it different?
- Given the betrayal of these fellow Christians, why doesn’t Paul question the authenticity of their faith?

Paul was more concerned with Christ’s reputation than with his own. When you truly “consider everything to be a loss” (Philippians 3:8) compared to the gospel, your perspective will be refocused in counter-cultural ways.

- If we were to adopt Paul’s perspective, how would we respond to Christians with suspicious motives or slightly different beliefs?
- Has anyone ever responded to you with the same grace as Paul, in spite of your differences or disagreements? How did it affect your relationship with them?
- If we were to respond to other Christians the way Paul does, how would it impact the spread of the gospel?

## 3) THAN OUR FEARS

### READ PHILIPPIANS 1:18B-20.

<sup>18b</sup> And in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice <sup>19</sup> because I know this will lead to my deliverance through your prayers and help from the Spirit of Jesus Christ. <sup>20</sup> My eager expectation and hope is that I will not be ashamed about anything, but that now as always, with all boldness, Christ will be highly honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

Have someone read “Than Our Fears” on page 30 of *Collegiate*.

Although Paul’s imprisonment wasn’t as dire as it could’ve been, Paul still prayed for courage amidst his circumstances.

- What do you think scared Paul?
- Of all the things Paul wanted to avoid, one of his top fears was being ashamed (v. 20). What do you think this means?
- What are some of the ways fear inhibits your witness?
- How can you overcome your fears through faith in Christ?





## THIS WEEK YOU'LL NEED

- A COPY OF THIS LEADER GUIDE
- THIS WEEK'S LESSON ON PAGES 32-33 OF *COLLEGIATE'S* SPRING ISSUE
- THE SONG "THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE" BY MATTHEW WEST FROM THE ALBUM *THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE*
- COMMUNION ELEMENTS FOR THE OPTION 1 "APPLY TO LIFE" ACTIVITY

## NEED TO KNOWS

### LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson is about Paul's admonition for the Philippians to live worthy of the gospel. The emphasis is on spreading the gospel by living up to its demands. The lesson encourages college students to live in ways that are true to the gospel.

### FOCAL PASSAGES

PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30; 2:1-11



## LET PURPOSE BE YOUR GUIDE

### GETTING STARTED

In the last few years, several public universities have prevented Christian groups from maintaining the status of an official student group. These actions were due to the "discriminatory" views of the Christian groups, who only allowed professing Christians to be leaders.

- If your campus or church faced this kind of situation, how would you respond in a way that's different from the world? What about your response would distinguish you as being fundamentally different?
- How have you seen Christians respond to similar persecution in a manner that looks just like the world? How have Christians missed the opportunity to stand out?

Note: As you discuss, guide the students away from any ideas that are fear-based, as God isn't the author of fear. It's important that our actions are based upon a confidence in God's sovereignty. Be sure to shepherd the tone of the conversation in that regard.

### DIG DEEPER

Refer to "Dig Deeper" on page 32 in the Spring 2011 issue of *Collegiate* for an eye-opening statistic that relates to the lesson topic.

# EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Have someone read the introduction to the session on page 32 of *Collegiate's* Spring 2011 issue.

## 1) PURPOSEFUL SUFFERING

### READ PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30.

*<sup>27</sup> Just one thing: Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or am absent, I will hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, working side by side for the faith that comes from the gospel, <sup>28</sup> not being frightened in any way by your opponents. This is a sign of destruction for them, but of your deliverance—and this is from God. <sup>29</sup> For it has been given to you on Christ's behalf not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for Him, <sup>30</sup> having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I have.*

Have someone read “Purposeful Suffering” on page 32 of *Collegiate*.

In verse 27, Paul encouraged the Philippians to “live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel.”

- In the midst of suffering, what do you think that phrase means?
- Is Paul implying that we should paint a smile on our faces even when we're suffering?
- How does grief coincide with living in a manner worthy of the gospel?

Christians too often encourage a shallow response to suffering. We're tempted to believe that grief, sadness, or depression have no place in the Christian life. We often feel pressured to put on a happy face, even when we're hurting inside. But this isn't the kind of response Paul expected.

Instead, he taught Christians to stand together in their times of need (v. 27) and to persevere in the hope of one day being delivered from this broken world (v. 28). We must be honest about our pain while having hope in the midst of it.

## 2) PURPOSEFUL UNITY

### READ PHILIPPIANS 2:1-4.

*<sup>1</sup> If then there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, <sup>2</sup> fulfill my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, sharing the same feelings, focusing on one goal. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of rivalry or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Everyone should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.*

Have someone read “Purposeful Unity” on page 32 of *Collegiate*.

In verses 1-4, Paul provided a list of practices that must be present in any Christian community if they're to enjoy unity. Spend some time discussing some of these practices. What would these look like when lived out on a college campus? (Encourage students to be specific.)

- “... thinking the same way, having the same love, sharing the same feelings, focusing on one goal” (v. 2)
- “... consider others as more important than yourselves” (v. 3)
- “Everyone should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others” (v. 4).

## 3) PURPOSEFUL ATTITUDE

### READ PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8.

*<sup>5</sup> Make your own attitude that of Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be used for His own advantage. <sup>7</sup> Instead He emptied Himself by assuming the form of a slave, taking on the likeness of men. And when He had come as a man in His external form, <sup>8</sup> He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross.*

Have someone read “Purposeful Attitude” on pages 32-33 of *Collegiate*.

Some scholars believe this passage comes from one of the earliest hymns of the Christian church.

- In view of this definition, read verses 5-8 again. Does this sound like a typical hymn? Why or why not?
- Why did early Christians sing a hymn about a Savior who was executed and humiliated?

One of the reasons scholars believe the gospel isn't a made-up story is because of its counter-intuitive plot. Who would follow a man who was brought so low? How could Jesus possibly be God? This doesn't sound like a story that someone invented — it runs against all worldly standards of greatness and success.

- What does Jesus' example teach us about a Christ-centered understanding of “strength” and “leadership”?

## 4) PURPOSEFUL SURRENDER

### READ PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11.

*<sup>9</sup> For this reason God highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow—of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth— <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Have someone read “Purposeful Surrender” on page 33 of *Collegiate*.

Second Corinthians 4:18 says, “So we do not focus on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” There's no better example of this truth than Christ's death. To the watching world, Jesus appeared to be a defeated failure. But behind the scenes, God was exalting Him and making Him victorious over sin and death.

- Why do you think God works that way? Why not make the unseen seen? Wouldn't more people believe in Him?
- How does this passage comfort Christians in the midst of failure or humiliation?



## THIS WEEK YOU'LL NEED

- A COPY OF THIS LEADER GUIDE
- THIS WEEK'S LESSON ON PAGES 34-35 OF *COLLEGIATE'S* SPRING ISSUE
- THE SONG "ROCK WHAT YOU GOT" BY SUPERCHICK FROM THE ALBUM *REINVENTION*
- THE VIDEO CLIP "NO MORE ADDICTIONS" FROM THE FILM *FIREPROOF* (AVAILABLE AT [WINGCLIPS.COM](http://WINGCLIPS.COM))
- PENS AND PAPER FOR THE OPTION 2 "APPLY TO LIFE" ACTIVITY



## NEED TO KNOWS

### LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson is about Christians' working out their salvation. The emphasis is on spreading the gospel by living as shining examples of Christianity. The lesson encourages college students to be shining examples of Christian living.

### FOCAL PASSAGES

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-30

## LIGHT UP YOUR CAMPUS

### GETTING STARTED

Begin today's lesson by discussing what it means to "stand out" on campus.

- As Christians, what would it look like to stand out on campus? Be specific — what are the particular behaviors of a Christian community that looks different from the rest?
- What are the main reasons college Christians choose not to stand out?
- Which of those reasons are really just excuses? Which of those reasons are legitimate concerns?

During this time, help your students to think through the spectrum of reasons college students choose to go with the flow of campus life instead of swimming against the cultural current. While some students will offer little more than excuses, others may have legitimate fears about persecution (or they may not want to stand out in a bad way, as they've seen other Christians do).

Avoid over-generalizations. Not all Christians who blend in are "bad Christians," and not all Christians who stand out are doing so biblically. While Scripture clearly commands students to "light up" their campuses, they must be intentional and thoughtful about what that looks like.

### DIG DEEPER

Refer to "Dig Deeper" on page 34 in the Spring 2011 issue of *Collegiate* for an engaging word study, a thought-provoking quote, and some additional Scripture that relates to the lesson topic.

# EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Have someone read the introduction to the session on page 34 of *Collegiate's* Spring 2011 issue.

## 1) REFLECT GOD'S GRACE

### READ PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13.

<sup>12</sup> So then, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now even more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. <sup>13</sup> For it is God who is working in you, enabling you both to desire and to work out His good purpose.

Have someone read “Reflect God’s Grace” on page 34 of *Collegiate*.

- In verse 12, Paul told the Philippians to “work out [their] own salvation.” But in the next verse, he seemed to contradict himself by adding, “God ... is working in you.” Why didn’t Paul believe these two statements were contradictions?
- If a non-Christian asked you what it means to “work out” your salvation, what would you tell him or her?

In Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s famous work, *The Cost of Discipleship*, he described the problem of “cheap grace” in the Christian church. “Cheap grace” is grace with no cost to ourselves, as if Christ isn’t worth our time, energy, or commitment.

Although God’s grace is a free gift to all, your life reveals whether you truly understand the size of what you’ve been given. A heart of gratitude toward God is made manifest in faithful perseverance and the pursuit of holiness. Not because you’re required to, but because you value God’s grace as being invaluable, not cheap.

## 2) REFLECT GOD'S JOY

### READ PHILIPPIANS 2:14-18.

<sup>14</sup> Do everything without grumbling and arguing, <sup>15</sup> so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God who are faultless in a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine like stars in the world. <sup>16</sup> Hold firmly to the message of life. Then I can boast in the day of Christ that I didn’t run or labor for nothing. <sup>17</sup> But even if I am poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. <sup>18</sup> In the same way you should also be glad and rejoice with me.

Have someone read “Reflect God’s Joy” on page 34 of *Collegiate*.

- How do you think Paul was able to rejoice, even in suffering?
- In verses 14-15, Paul draws a connection between “grumbling and arguing” and the need to be “blameless and pure” in a “crooked and perverted generation.” How does the first behavior undermine the second?

During this time, reflect on the contagious nature of complaining. Ask students if they’ve ever gone on a trip with their family or gone out with friends, only to have a terrible time because one person in the group had a terrible attitude. Ask for specific stories, but encourage them to avoid details that could potentially slander a friend or family member.

- Why does a bad attitude infect the whole group?
- What does that tell you about the importance of joy in a Christian community?

## 3) REFLECT GOD'S LOVE

### READ PHILIPPIANS 2:19-24.

<sup>19</sup> Now I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon so that I also may be encouraged when I hear news about you. <sup>20</sup> For I have no one else like-minded who will genuinely care about your interests; <sup>21</sup> all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup> But you know his proven character, because he has served with me in the gospel ministry like a son with a father. <sup>23</sup> Therefore, I hope to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. <sup>24</sup> I am convinced in the Lord that I myself will also come quickly.

Have someone read “Reflect God’s Love” on page 34 of *Collegiate*.

- What are some of the reasons Christians struggle to love one another?
- What are some of the reasons Christians struggle to love non-Christians?
- Why do you think Paul loved Timothy and the Philippians with such abandon?
- What can we learn from Paul’s example as we seek to love others?



