

Loving Egham – Paul's letter's in Philippians 1-3

To the saints in Egham — who dare to follow Jesus in a culture that follows itself — grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank God for every memory of you. I see your faith, your service, your sacrifices — and I rejoice. But I also see your weariness. Your distractions. Your compromises. So I write not only to comfort, but to stir. Not just to affirm, but to awaken.

You began well. You received the gospel with joy, and you stood firm in the early trials. But now, beloved, the battle has shifted. It is no longer a question of whether you will start, but whether you will finish.

Let me speak plainly: too many are drifting. Too many have settled for safe religion. Too many are caught in shallow routines, forgetting that Jesus calls us to take up our cross, not just to turn up on Sunday. Church in Egham, now is not the time for passive faith. Now is the time to stand, to shine, and to speak.

So here is my challenge to you:

1. Love loudly.

Not in sentiment, but in sacrifice. Visit the lonely. Forgive that person you've written off. Invite the awkward. Serve the ungrateful. Choose the harder path — it is the way of the cross.

2. Live courageously.

Stop apologising for the truth. Speak the name of Jesus without flinching. The world doesn't need more vague spirituality — it needs bold gospel clarity. Be salt. Be light. Stop blending in.

3. Get uncomfortable.

Shake off the convenience Christianity. Fast. Pray. Get up early to seek Him. Give until it costs. Open your home. Go deeper than a Sunday smile. Your comfort zone is not your calling.

4. Think higher.

You were not saved to survive — you were saved to shine. You are citizens of heaven. So live like it. Don't let your schedule, your money, or your media diet be shaped more by the world than by the Word.

5. Press on.

You've not arrived. None of us has. Don't coast on past obedience. Don't hide behind good intentions. Run. Fight. Strive. And when you fall, get up again.

For me, to live is Christ. Full stop. No add-ons. No half-measures. That's the call. That's the prize. Everything else — credentials, comfort, reputation, religion — it's loss compared to knowing Him. Is that your posture?

I tell you again: press on. Forget what lies behind. Stop replaying your mistakes. Stop comparing your journey. Run your race. Lay hold of Christ. Let Him lay hold of you.

Practical Next Steps:

This week: Share Jesus — not a vague faith — with one person.

Today: Ask God to show you who needs your forgiveness. Do it.

Now: Set a rhythm of time with God that stretches you. Put it in your calendar.

This month: Invite someone into your home. Show kingdom hospitality.

Always: Examine your life. Does it shout, “Christ is King”? If not, change something.

You are not called to be liked. You are called to be holy. You are not called to be safe. You are called to be faithful. And when you feel weak, good — that’s when grace proves strong. So shine, Egham. Stand out. Stand firm. And if you must fall, fall forward into the arms of Christ.

I write with affection, but not flattery. With joy, but also urgency. May the fire of the Spirit burn in your bones, and may the name of Jesus be louder than every other voice.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, and stir it to action.

In the fight, A servant of the King

Questions

1. Am I loving sacrificially, or conveniently?

Scripture: *“And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight...”* **Philippians 1:9**

Paul’s desire was not for shallow affection, but deep, discerning love that leads to action. Are you choosing the harder path of love — forgiving, including, and serving — even when it’s inconvenient?

2. Does my life boldly reflect Christ, or blend in with the culture?

Scripture: *“...that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you.”* — **Philippians 1:27–28**

The challenge is clear: stop apologising for Jesus. Is your faith visible? Do your words and choices unmistakably point to Him?

3. Am I pursuing Christ with hunger, or settling into spiritual routine?

Scripture: *“I want to know Christ — yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings...”* **Philippians 3:10**

Knowing Jesus is more than a quiet time checkbox. It’s a pursuit. Are you pressing into deeper intimacy, or staying where it’s comfortable?

4. Am I thinking and living as a citizen of heaven, or just surviving?

Scripture: *“But our citizenship is in heaven. We eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ...”* **Philippians 3:20**

Your true home shapes your values. Are your priorities, finances, and time more shaped by the Word or the world?

5. Am I pressing forward, or coasting on past obedience?

Scripture: *“Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal...”* **Philippians 3:13–14**

There’s no finish line in faith until we see Him. Are you still running — or just reminiscing about when you once did?