

# Philippians



# Target Audience



Video Thought  
for the Day



# Target Audience



Video Thought  
for the Day



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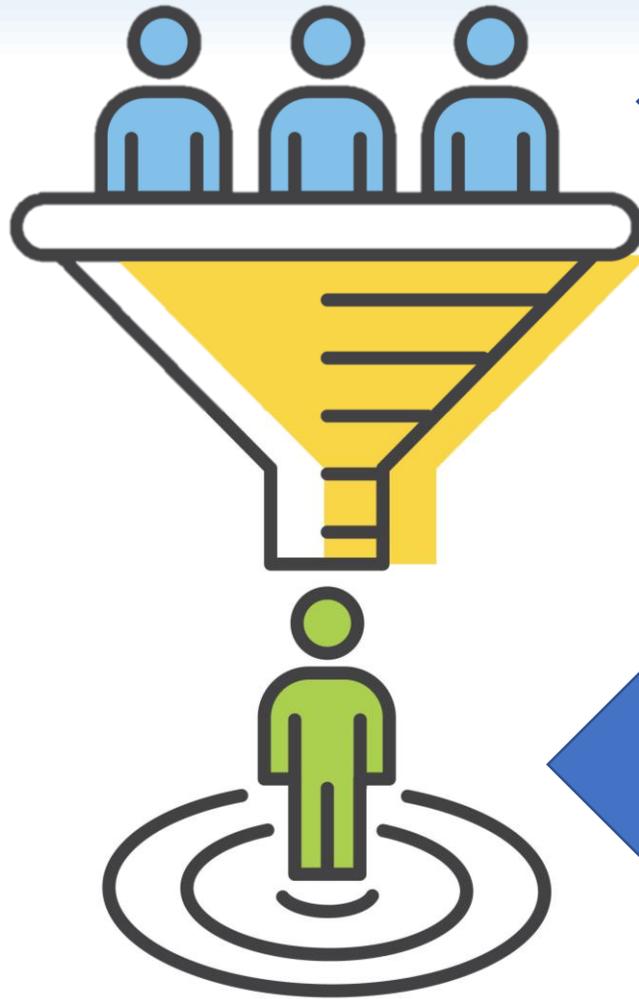


Paul in  
Philippians 3?

Gentiles hearing  
the call of  
“Judaizers”

Judaizers!

Key Jewish  
Rituals



Gentile believers

Someone in covenant  
of Abraham

The image shows an archaeological site with several tall, weathered stone columns standing amidst ruins. In the background, a large, rocky mountain rises under a clear blue sky. The foreground is filled with stone walls and debris, suggesting an ancient city or temple complex.

Philippians

Paul On Target



Paul On Target?!

 **TARGET**



The challenge



The goal



The process



# The challenge



Phil. 3:1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you.

Phil. 3:1 Τὸ λοιπόν, ἀδελφοί μου, χαίρετε ἐν κυρίῳ. τὰ αὐτὰ γράφειν ὑμῖν ἐμοὶ μὲν οὐκ ὀκνηρόν, ὑμῖν δὲ ἀσφαλές.

Phil. 3:2-3 Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh—

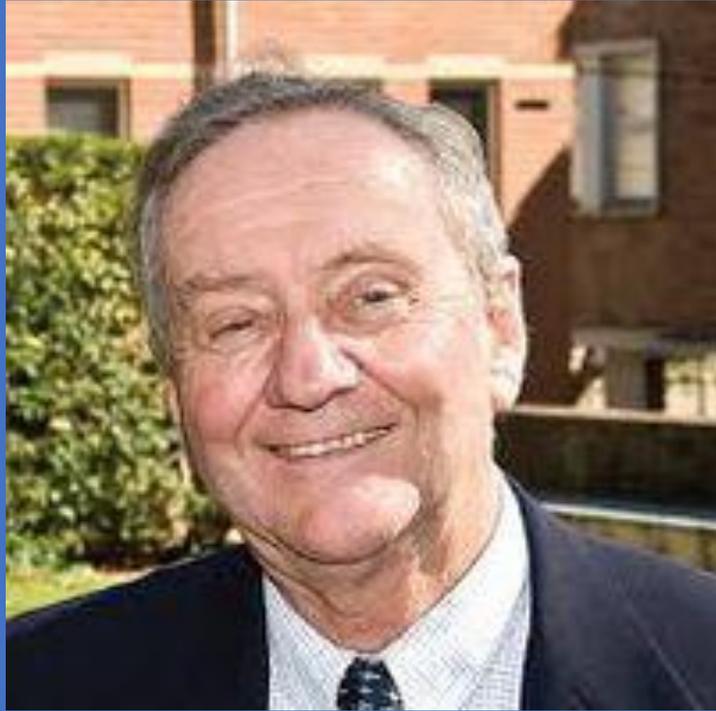
Phil. 3:2-3 Βλέπετε τοὺς κύνας, βλέπετε τοὺς κακοὺς ἐργάτας, βλέπετε τὴν κατατομήν. ἡμεῖς γὰρ ἐσμεν ἡ περιτομή, οἱ πνεύματι θεοῦ λατρεύοντες καὶ καυχώμενοι ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ καὶ οὐκ ἐν σαρκὶ πεποιθότες

Phil. 3:4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:

Phil. 3:4 καίπερ ἐγὼ ἔχων πεποίθησιν καὶ ἐν σαρκί. Εἴ τις δοκεῖ ἄλλος πεποιθέναι ἐν σαρκί, ἐγὼ μᾶλλον·

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Peter Thomas O'Brien

“Not only can Paul match the grounds that the Jew or Judaizer had for boasting in himself; he can even outstrip them... Paul’s grounds for boasting in his own pedigree and achievements are in fact greater than the credentials any Judaizer could produce.”



Karl Barth

Paul is saying: “If it came to that, I could *also* find a few things to say of my own cleanness, industry, circumcision. Thus-it is to sound like a challenge-if anyone else thinks he can rely on flesh, then I could do so much more.”



# THROWDOWN

with

**Bobby Flay**





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## Phil. 3:6

- circumcised on the eighth day,
- of the people of Israel,
- of the tribe of Benjamin,
- a Hebrew of Hebrews;

Paul's  
orthodox  
pedigree

## Phil. 3:6

- περιτομῇ ὀκταήμερος,
- ἐκ γένους Ἰσραήλ,
- φυλῆς Βενιαμίν,
- Ἑβραῖος ἐξ Ἑβραίων,

Paul spoke Hebrew, and  
his family kept tight ties to Jerusalem

Acts 26:14

Acts 21:40

Acts 22:2

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- Ἑβραῖος ἐξ Ἑβραίων,

Paul's objective life, not inner thoughts

The strict Gal 1 Judaism

Paul's  
personal  
accomp.

“Zeal” (ζῆλος) could be bad or good

Gal. 5:20

Here Paul means good!

Jn. 2:17

Phil. 3:7-8a But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

Phil. 3:7-8a [Ἄλλ'] ἅτινα ἦν μοι κέρδη, ταῦτα ἤγημαι διὰ τὸν Χριστὸν ζημίαν. ἀλλὰ μενοῦνγε καὶ ἡγοῦμαι πάντα ζημίαν εἶναι διὰ τὸ ὑπερέχον τῆς γνώσεως Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ τοῦ κυρίου μου,



Pay **big time** attention!  
(asyndeton)

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# BALANCE SHEETS

LOSSES

ζημιά

PROFITS

κέρδος



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All of his "gains" are a loss



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ἀλλὰ μενοῦνγε καὶ ἡγοῦμαι  
πάντα ζημίαν εἶναι διὰ τὸ

The “perfect tense” emphasizes the present effects arising from something in the past

Paul was referring to the Damascus Rd experience



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# SERIOUSLY

Pay **big time** attention!  
(wierdness and repetition)

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A post-apocalyptic city street scene. The foreground is filled with rubble, including a crushed car and a 'ONE WAY' sign. In the background, skeletal brick buildings stand against a hazy, yellowish sky. A yellow-bordered blue box with white text is overlaid on the center of the image.

Do we see the  
massiveness of Paul's  
choice?



The challenge



The goal

Phil. 3:8b-9 For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith

Phil. 3:8b-9 δι' ὃν τὰ πάντα ἐζημιώθην, καὶ ἡγοῦμαι σκύβαλα, ἵνα Χριστὸν κερδήσω καὶ εὑρεθῶ ἐν αὐτῷ, μὴ ἔχων ἐμὴν δικαιοσύνην τὴν ἐκ νόμου ἀλλὰ τὴν διὰ πίστεως Χριστοῦ, τὴν ἐκ θεοῦ δικαιοσύνην ἐπὶ τῇ πίστει,

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## Phil. 3:8b-9

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- and be found in him,
- not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law,
- but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith

## Phil. 3:8b-9

- Χριστὸν κερδήσω
- καὶ εὑρεθῶ ἐν αὐτῷ,
- μὴ ἔχων ἐμὴν δικαιοσύνην τὴν ἐκ νόμου
- ἀλλὰ τὴν διὰ πίστεως Χριστοῦ, τὴν ἐκ θεοῦ δικαιοσύνην ἐπὶ τῇ πίστει,

## Phil. 3:10-11

- That I may **know** him
- and the power of his resurrection,
- and may **share** his sufferings,
- becoming like him in his

Jn 17:3 “And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

dead.

## Phil. 3:10-11

- τοῦ **γνῶναι** αὐτόν
- καὶ τὴν δύναμιν τῆς ἀναστάσεως αὐτοῦ
- καὶ [τὴν] **κοινωνίαν** [τῶν] παθημάτων αὐτοῦ,

θανάτων τὴν ἐκ νεκρῶν.



The challenge



The goal



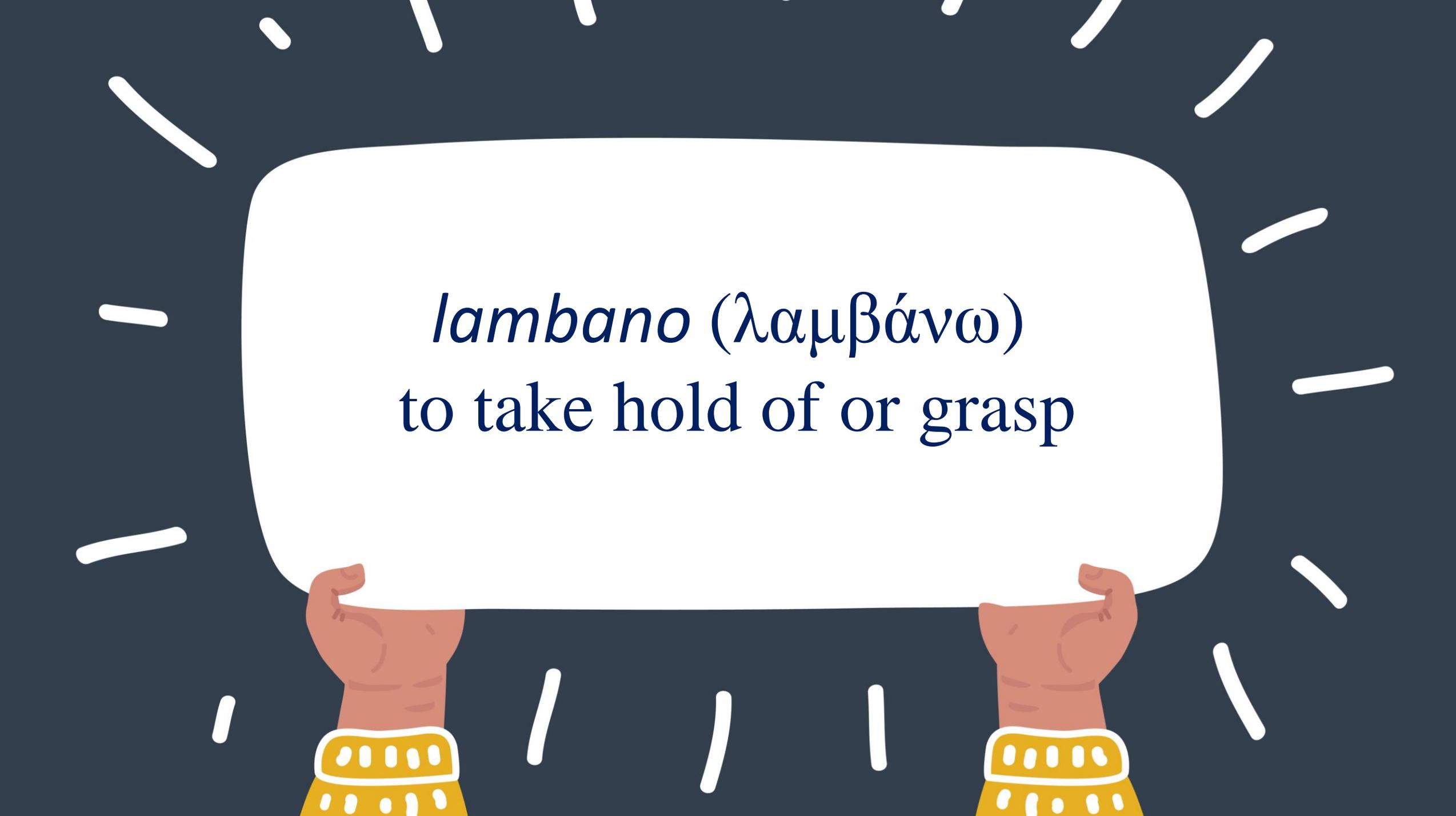
The process

Phil. 3:12 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Phil. 3:12 Οὐχ ὅτι ἤδη ἔλαβον ἢ ἤδη τετελείωμαι, διώκω δὲ εἰ καὶ καταλάβω, ἐφ' ᾧ καὶ κατελήμφθην ὑπὸ Χριστοῦ [Ἰησοῦ].

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An illustration featuring two hands holding a white sign against a dark blue background with white confetti. The hands are brown and wearing yellow wristbands with white dots. The sign contains the text: 

*lambano* (λαμβάνω)  
to take hold of or grasp

A man in a white dress shirt and a blue tie is shown from the chest up. His right hand is held out, palm facing forward, with fingers slightly spread. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey. The text is overlaid in the top right corner.

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*1 Cor. 13 becomes important here...*

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*diōkō* (διώκω) - to chase after

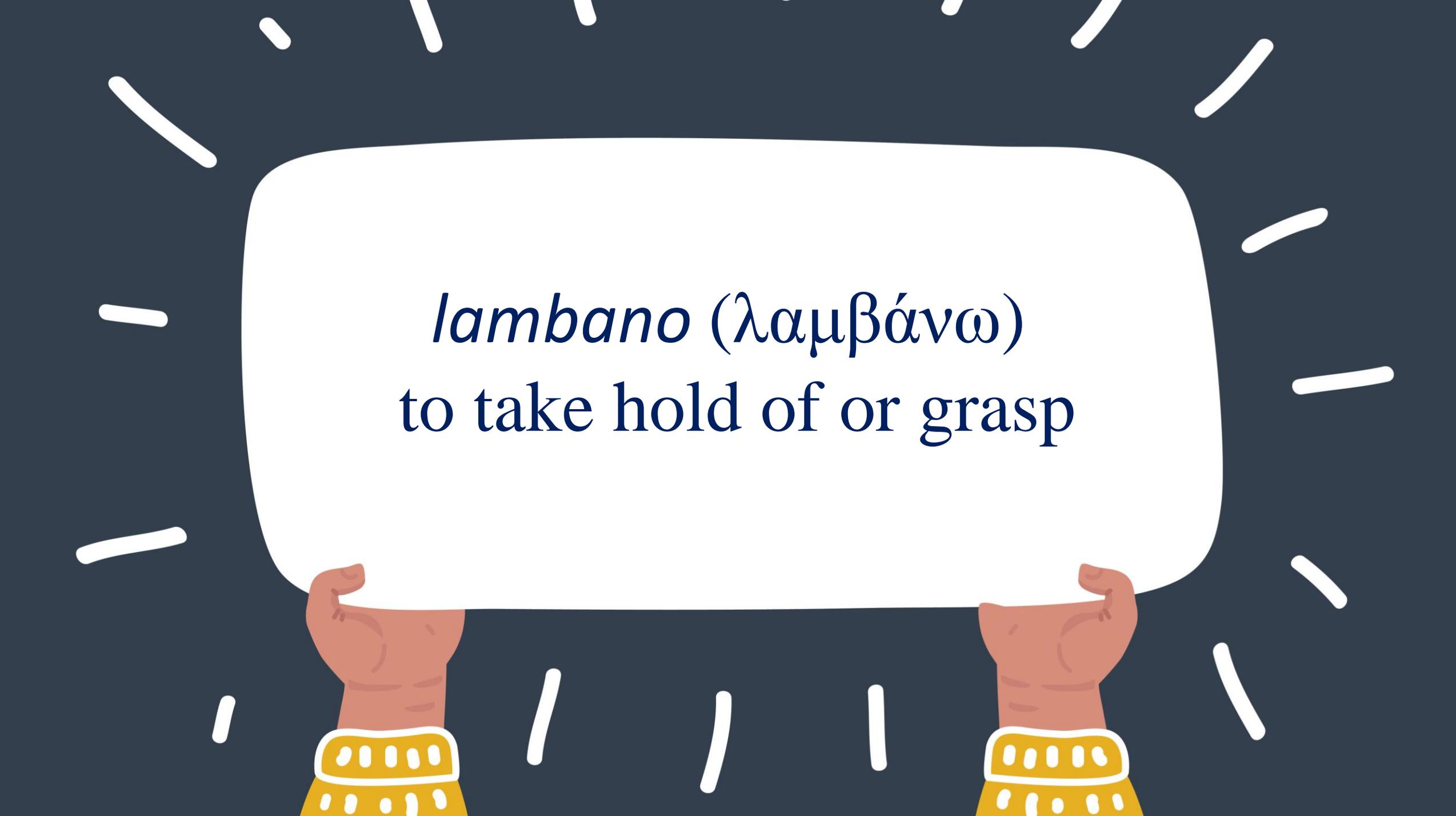


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gabbbed

grab it

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*lambano* (λαμβάνω)

to take hold of

or grasp

*diōkō* (διώκω) - to chase after



What are you chasing after?









Phil. 3:13 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

Phil. 3:13 ἀδελφοί, ἐγὼ ἑμαυτὸν οὐ λογίζομαι κατειληφέναι· ἐν δέ, τὰ μὲν ὀπίσω ἐπιλανθανόμενος τοῖς δὲ ἔμπροσθεν ἐπεκτεινόμενος,

Phil. 3:14 I press on  
toward the goal for the  
prize of the upward call of  
God in Christ Jesus.

Phil. 3:14 κατὰ σκοπὸν  
διώκω εἰς τὸ βραβεῖον τῆς  
ἄνω κλήσεως τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν  
Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ.

What are you chasing after?

The upward  
call of God!





With, let's say, the  
of my Lord



Bob Dylan – *Pressing On*

## Points to Ponder:



Paul ... Had it all,  
and saw it as garbage

Where am I  
finding value?

Points to Ponder:



Profits and Losses

I want to re-examine  
my priorities

## Points to Ponder:



I haven't arrived yet... but  
I know what I'm chasing!

But I'm pressing on  
to the higher calling  
if my Lord!

The image shows an archaeological site with several tall, weathered stone columns standing amidst ruins. In the background, there is a large, rocky mountain under a clear blue sky. The foreground features stone walls and a dirt path.

Philippians

Paul On Target

Time for church!

