

#1 – Philippians

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# Philippians

**October 18, 2020**  
**Philippians**

**Goal: Transformed into a church of Encouragers**

Acts 16:9-10

<sup>9</sup> And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” <sup>10</sup> And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Acts 16:13-15

<sup>13</sup> And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together.

<sup>14</sup> One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God.

<sup>14</sup> ... The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup> And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

Philippians 1:1-2

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

<sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**ALL Christians are saints**

**Saint** = a holy one who is set apart

It's the **Holy Spirit's job** to **help and train** us to live in **alignment** with that identity



Philippians 1:3-11

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup> always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup> so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup> filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

### **1 – I always thank God for you in my prayers**

Verses 3-5

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you

Always in every prayer ... praying with joy ... because of your partnership

Paul is directing his thoughts to **focus on his Unity with the Philippian Christians**

### **2 – God will complete His work in you**

<sup>6</sup> And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Just as sure as **Jesus was powerful enough to save you**,  
the **Holy Spirit is powerful enough to continue your sanctification** over the years of your life and **usher you into heaven when you die**.

You are **God's masterpiece**

### **3 – I love you**

<sup>7</sup> ... I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace

<sup>8</sup> ... I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus

“partakers” of grace with him

### **4 – I'm praying your love may abound**

<sup>9</sup> ... your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment

**Truth saturated Love**

**Love saturated Truth**

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# Growth Group Questions

## Philippians

Sunday, October 18, 2020

[FoothillsBibleChurch.org/growth-groups](http://FoothillsBibleChurch.org/growth-groups)

Philippians 1:1-11

### Prepare

**Read** Philippians 1:1-11

**Pray** for your G2 & FBC to become a diverse group of people united around the Gospel, loving one another.

### Connect

1. Describe a decision which changed the trajectory of your life & trace its impact on you & others.

### Discussion

This week's discussion questions are a practical walk through Paul's prayer applied to us today.

1. What stuck with you most from the sermon this week?
2. Share an experience when someone's encouragement helped you get through a difficult time.
  - a. How do you need encouragement right now?
  - b. Who, specifically, could you encourage right now & how?
3. Discuss practical ways we might love one another more this year in our G2 & FBC? How might we grow in our love for each other?
4. How does Paul's positive perspective affect your view of your personal, national, and global conditions today?
5. How might our G2 grow in partnership with a GO Worker? Does anyone know of a GO worker who needs prayer? Who might God be calling our G2 to adopt this year?

### **Diving Deeper (Optional questions to go a little further)**

1. Knowledge & discernment in Paul's prayer is practically knowing what is best for others. Why is it important to have these to love others well?
2. What does Paul's prayer teach you about his perspective on life?
  - a. If people heard your prayers, what would it teach them about your perspective on life? Compare his perspective to yours.
3. **Read Titus 1:5-7, Acts 6:1-6; 20:28.** Why would Paul make special mention of the overseers and elders?

### **Closing Prayer**

1. Pray Philippians 1:9-11 for your G2, FBC, and the Church in general.
2. Keep track of requests & celebrations from others in your G2 & pray for them.