

0190 049      The reason why all of believers should be thankful to the church at Philippi.  
08/05/97      Phi 1:5; 4:10,14-16; 2Co 11:7-9; Mat 12:14-21; Act 18:3

## Summary

The meeting at Grace Bible Church South in Boca Raton featured a discussion on Philippians chapter one. McLaughlin introduced Judd and Winnie Whitten, who lead a Bible study in their home and support the local assembly. The focus was on Paul's gratitude for the Philippians' financial contributions, which allowed him to focus on his ministry. The congregation was encouraged to support their pastor spiritually and materially, as the Philippians did for Paul. Key principles included mutual blessing by association, the importance of spiritual prosperity, and the divine agenda over personal agendas. The meeting concluded with a prayer and a call to support Bible doctrine.

- **Introduction of Guests and Congregation Announcements [0:03](#)**
  - McLaughlin introduces Judd and Winnie Whitten from Grace Bible Church South in Boca Raton, who lead a Bible study in their home.
  - Judd and Winnie Whitten are members of the congregation and are visiting for one evening.
  - McLaughlin humorously mentions the Whittens' offer to pay for travel expenses and accommodations for anyone interested in visiting them in Florida.
  - The congregation is encouraged to say hello to the Whittens before they leave.
- **Silent Prayer and Study of Philippians Chapter One [1:58](#)**
  - McLaughlin leads the congregation in a moment of silent prayer, asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance in examining their lives and understanding the Word of God.
  - The study begins with Philippians chapter one, verse three, where Paul expresses gratitude for the Philippian church.
  - McLaughlin explains the para-parenthetical nature of verse four, which discusses Paul's inner happiness in prayer.
  - The focus shifts to verse five, where Paul thanks the Philippian church for their contributions in spreading the gospel.
- **Paul's Teachings and the Philippian Church's Support [24:03](#)**
  - McLaughlin discusses how Paul's teachings led the Philippian church to spiritual maturity, which resulted in financial support for Paul.
  - The financial support from the Philippian church allowed Paul to focus on his ministry without needing to work.
  - McLaughlin emphasizes that the Philippian church's support was not due to legalistic requirements but due to their spiritual maturity.
  - The principle of mutual blessing by association is introduced, where the pastor contributes spiritual wealth, and the congregation supports the pastor materially.
- **Paul's Financial Support from Various Churches [24:25](#)**

- McLaughlin highlights that the Philippian church was the only one to support Paul financially, unlike other churches like Thessalonica, Ephesus, and Corinth.
- Paul's critics accused him of being in it for the money, but Paul's teachings were free, and he did not seek financial gain.
- McLaughlin explains how Paul's teachings were supported by the Philippian church, which allowed him to write half of the New Testament.
- The congregation is encouraged to support their pastor spiritually and materially, as the Philippian church did for Paul.
- **Principles of Support and Spiritual Prosperity [29:06](#)**
  - McLaughlin outlines six principles: God uses advancing believers to provide logistical support for their right pastor, the pastor's spiritual prosperity is transformed into material prosperity, and the spiritual prosperity of Paul caused the spiritual prosperity of the Philippians.
  - The principle of mutual blessing by association is reiterated, where the pastor and congregation mutually benefit from each other's support.
  - Giving is presented as a means of inculcating teamwork and coordination within the body of Christ.
  - The pastor must make an issue out of the gospel and Bible doctrine, not money or building funds.
- **Paul's Mindset and the Divine Agenda [39:27](#)**
  - McLaughlin explains that Paul had the mind of Christ, which means not seeking glory from men but from God.
  - Paul's teachings were supported by the Philippian church, allowing him to focus on his ministry without financial worries.
  - The congregation is encouraged to support their pastor spiritually and materially, as the Philippian church did for Paul.
  - McLaughlin emphasizes that the divine agenda should be prioritized over personal agendas, and approval should come from God.
- **Jesus' Example and the Mind of Christ [40:28](#)**
  - McLaughlin discusses how Jesus Christ did not seek glory from men but from God, as exemplified in Matthew chapter 12.
  - Jesus healed many people but warned them not to make Him known, as He sought approval from God alone.
  - The principle of not seeking approval by argument is highlighted, as Jesus did not argue or cry out to win approval.
  - The congregation is encouraged to follow Jesus' example and seek approval from God alone, not from men.
- **Conclusion and Final Thoughts [1:01:51](#)**
  - McLaughlin concludes by emphasizing the importance of having a divine agenda and seeking approval from God.
  - The congregation is encouraged to support their pastor spiritually and materially, as the Philippian church did for Paul.
  - The study of Philippians chapter one is summarized, highlighting the principles of mutual blessing by association and the importance of supporting the pastor.
  - The congregation is thanked for their support and encouraged to continue their faithfulness to the Word of God.

