

Use this guide as a resource for your community group to help you further engage with the sermon from this weekend.

Prayer of Thanks, Confidence, and Love (Philippians 1:3-8) March 3, 2024

- 1. What motivated Paul to pray for the Christians in Philippi? What motivates your prayers for other Christians?
- 2. Paul understood the importance of praying for others (see 2 Cor. 1:11; Eph. 6:18-19a) and expected prayer to be powerful and effective (see Jam. 5:16).
 - a. Do you typically focus your prayer requests on physical or spiritual needs? How can you bring more balance to the way that you pray?
 - b. What spiritual needs can you request prayer for?
 - c. Where in your life is it hardest to believe that prayer is powerful and effective?
- 3. Read Philippians 1:3-4.
 - a. What does Paul do first in this letter?
 - b. What might prevent people from being thankful to God? What might prevent you?
- 4. Read Philippians 1:5.
 - a. What did Paul specifically thank God for regarding the Philippians?
 - b. How does the idea of partnership challenge the practice of one person or a small group of people doing all the work of ministry?
 - c. Where could we see partnership increase at Living Gospel?
- 5. According to Philippians 1:6, who began the good work in Christians?
 - a. How does Romans 8:28-30 relate to Philippians 1:6?
 - b. What comfort can we offer one another when sanctification seems slow in us?
- 6. Paul expresses his love for <u>all</u> the saints in Phillippi (Phil. 1:3,4,7,8). What is one step you can take to express love to someone who is hard to love?