

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

## A Community of Gospel-Centered Love (Philippians 1:9-11) March 10, 2024

- 1. How easy is it for you to ask for personal prayer requests related to your spiritual life? What can make this hard for you?
- 2. Paul's main prayer request is that gospel-centered love increase among all the believers in the church at Philippi (v. 9a).
  - a. Why is it important to keep praying that gospel-centered love will increase in our church?
  - b. What attitudes or actions might prevent this?
- 3. "True gospel love can only be experienced through sacrifice."
  - a. Is this consistent with your experience as a Christian? How so?
  - b. Look up the following verses and discuss how love and sacrifice are related in the gospel.
    - i. John 15:12-13
    - ii. Ephesians 5:1-2
    - iii. 1 John 4:10-11
  - c. How can forgiveness help us grow in love?
- 4. Read Philippians 1:9b-11a.
  - a. What aspects of transformation is Paul concerned with in these verses?
  - b. How might focusing on only one of these impact our love for one another?
- 5. According to Philippians 1:11a, where does the fruit of righteousness come from?
  - a. What can you do if the fruit in your life isn't the fruit of righteousness (see 1 John 1:9)?
  - b. How can this group be a way to help you pursue the fruit of righteousness?
- 6. Paul says that the impact of a community growing in gospel-centered love is that God receives glory and praise (v. 11b). What is one step you could take this week to shine the light of Christ in your sphere of influence?