

Philippians 1:1-11 Discussion Guide

General Discussion Questions:

- What statement or illustration from the message stuck out to you and why?
- What attributes of God were on display in the passage?
- What encouraged you?
- What point of action/application did you walk away with?

Topics for Discussion:

- Cultivate
- The Gospel
- The Church
- Love
- Joy
- Unity
- Prayer

Review:

WE LABOR TOGETHER UNTIL CHRIST RETURNS, FELLOWSHIP IN THE GOSPEL SPARKS THREE RESPONSES:

1. JOYFUL THANKSGIVING
2. TRUE UNITY
3. PURPOSEFUL PRAYER for SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Discussion Questions:

? - Grace/Peace - Paul commonly used this greeting to express his best for his readers

Go around the room and read some of his other greetings: Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:3; 2 Cor. 1:2; Gal. 1:3; Eph. 1:2; Col. 1:3; 1 Thess. 1:1; 2 Thess. 1:2; 1 Tim. 1:2; 2 Tim. 1:2; Titus 1:4; Philem. 1:3.

? – If any man had reason to be bitter because of affliction, Paul did (consider the list of his afflictions in 2 Cor. 11:23-33). Yet from a place of confinement in Rome Paul wrote Philippians--the epistle of joy. How does Paul's gracious attitude in the midst of trials serve as an example for us?

? – God is the one who works maturity in us be we are highly participatory in the process. Look up Philippians 1: 6-11 and 2: 12-16. Locate and discuss the verbs that describe God's actions and then notice and discuss the verbs that describe our actions.

? – What are the practical implications of the fact that all believers are saints?

? – Review some ways that other believers are a source of joy!

? – How was the Philippians' "internal gospel growth" and "external gospel advance" evident?

? – Discuss verse 6 – what implications does it have for our sanctification and glorification? Read and discuss the quote below:

"We go into the artist's studio and find there unfinished pictures covering large canvas, and suggesting great designs, but which have been left, either because the genius was not competent to complete the work, or because paralysis laid the hand low in death; but as we go into God's great workshop we find nothing that bears the mark of haste or insufficiency of power to finish, and we are sure that the work which His grace has begun, the arm of His strength will complete" - F. B. Meyer