









# LIFE MISSION

THE ULTIMATE WALK WITH CHRIST

## SESSION 7

## THANKFUL PARTNERSHIP!

### OPEN

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As you open up tonight, Besides members of your family, who are you most thankful for?

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What jumped out at you from the message this week? What led you to really think or even better, to change your actions?

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### WATCH SESSION 7

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### INTRODUCTION

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What jumped out at you from the video in this session? What are some ways that we might use this to live on mission with Christ?

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### READ

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[READ Philippians 1:3-7](#)

How would you describe Paul's perspective? What emotions does he express towards them?

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Paul's perspective is very optimistic. He expresses thanksgiving, joy and confidence.

Paul says the Philippians are his partners in the gospel. What might he mean?

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They are faithful followers of Christ who are experiencing the gospel (1:2, 1:6). They helped him complete his initial mission to preach the gospel (Acts 16), and they have been involved with Paul in the defense and confirmation of the gospel (1:7, 27). They have suffered with Paul for the gospel (1:30, 4:14-15). They have been interceding for Paul (1:19). They provided a gift for Paul in prison (4:10).

What does Paul mean when he says God will complete the good work he began in them?

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Paul is confident that since God began a work of grace in their lives, when they initially received the gospel, God will surely be faithful to continue to



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work in them and sustain them in their faith until the Day of the Lord.

**Paul insists his “feelings” toward the Philippians are right or appropriate. Why does he have to clarify this? Why might someone consider his perspective inappropriate?**

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Paul is in prison, the Philippians are suffering, certain “brothers” are turning against Paul, false teachers are out there spreading lies, there is disunity in the church and yet Paul begins his letter extremely optimistically. Some might consider his optimism misplaced, so he insists that it is appropriate.

## DIVE DEEPER

**How might God’s grace help someone suffer for, defend and confirm the gospel?**

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Answers will vary

**Paul says he yearns for the Philippians “with the affection of Christ Jesus”. What does this reveal about Christ’s heart? How is this an explanation for Paul’s confidence God will complete his work in them?**

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Since Paul yearns for us with the affections of Christ, that means Christ himself yearns for his people. Christ longs to be reunited with us, face to face. This explains Paul’s confidence that God will continue his work in them, because if Christ yearns to be reunited with the Philippians, Christ will do whatever it takes to make sure they are sustained in their faith until The Day of Christ, and make to their home with him in heaven.

**What are three things we can do to build the kind of life that will ensure someone saying ten years from now, “I thank my God when I remember you”?**

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