

Discussion Questions:

Gordon Fee describes Philippians as a “Letter of Friendship”.

Partnership/Friendship: Where do we see partnerships/holy friendships in the Old & New Testaments?

- (Adam and Eve – it is not good for man to be alone; Cain and Abel – partnership/friendship gone bad; Noah – with his wife and family, and each animal in pairs; Moses, Aaron, and Joshua; Ruth and Naomi; David and Jonathan; Peter, James, and John; Paul and Silas; Paul and Timothy;)

What are the characteristics of holy partnership as described by Paul in Philippians 1:3-11?

While Paul does not describe all the churches he writes to with this much affection, he often describes a similar partnership. (Romans 1:8-12; 1 Corinthians 1:4-9;)

If Paul were writing a letter to our church – Paul’s letter to the church in Wilmington – how would you hope Paul would describe our church in the opening to his letter?

Paul begins most of his letters with a prayer. In Philippians that prayer is (Phil 1:9-11). If Paul were to pray that prayer for us and for our church, what would be the evidence of this prayer coming true in our lives, in our church, and in our community (i.e. the fruits of the harvest of righteousness)?