



Discussion Guide

March 1

Philippians 1:1-11

¹Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons: ²Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,

⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Read Philippians 1:1-5

1. What words or phrases in this opening greeting reveal Paul's affection for the believers in Philippi?
2. Paul says he thanks God "every time" he remembers them. What do you think makes a community of believers the kind of people others naturally give thanks for?
3. What does "partnership in the gospel" mean in practical, everyday terms?

Read Philippians 1:6-8

4. How does verse 6 shape our understanding of spiritual growth? What comfort or challenge does it bring?
5. Paul connects his joy to people, not circumstances. What does that suggest about the source of lasting joy?
6. Why do you think Paul emphasizes sharing in God's grace even while he is in chains?

Read Philippians 1:9-11

7. What stands out to you about Paul's prayer in verses 9-11?
8. How are love, knowledge, and discernment connected in this passage?
9. What does it look like to be "filled with the fruit of righteousness" in ordinary life?
10. How might this passage encourage us as individuals and as a church, no matter what happens around us?