



MESSAGE NOTES

PRACTICAL TEACHING FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Title: **The Joy of Partnership**
Series: **The Radical Guide to Joy**
Text: **Philippians 1:1-11**
Speaker: **Kevin T. Hardy** Date: **September 21, 2025**

Olive Knolls Church and Olive Knolls Christian School—partnering together for the gospel. We are stronger together than apart.

Who are WE? - Our _____ and MISSION!

*Paul and Timothy, **servants** of Christ Jesus,
To **all the saints** in Christ Jesus at Philippi, **together with** the **overseers** and **deacons**:
Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Php 1:1-2)*

SO HOW DO WE FIND JOY IN THIS PARTNERSHIP?

1. JOY _____ GOD FOR PARTNERS

*I **thank my God** every time I remember you. (Php 1:3).*

*In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy **because of your partnership** (Koinōnia) in the **gospel** from the first day until now. . . (Php 1:4–5).*

- **Christian** _____ means **a partnership** in mission that seeks the advance of the gospel.

*“If **we do not give thanks for the daily Christian fellowship** in which we have been placed, even where there is **no great experience**, no **discoverable riches**, but much weakness, small faith, and difficulty; if on the contrary, we **only keep complaining to God that everything is so paltry and petty**, so far from what we expected, then **we hinder God from letting our fellowship grow** according to the measure and riches which are there for us in Jesus Christ.”*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- Gratitude is the _____ where fellowship grows.
- Chronic complaining _____ fellowship.

***“give thanks in all circumstances**, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thes 5:18)*

2. JOY _____ (PRAYS) WITH CONFIDENCE

In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,

WHAT CAUSES A PERSON TO PRAY WITH JOY?

being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Php 1:4–6).

- His confidence isn't in "the Christianity of the Christians" but in "the God-ness of God" (God's faithfulness) who finishes what He starts.

3. JOY _____ CHRISTLIKE AFFECTION

It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. (Php 1:7).

WHAT ARE THESE "FEELINGS"?

God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. (Php 1:8).

- *splanchna*, literally means "from the guts"—the deep, gut-level compassion

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34–35)

4. JOY _____ IN WISE LOVE AND HOLY FRUIT

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,

so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ,

filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. (Php 1:9–11).

Call to Commitment