

## Life Group Discussion Guide "Finding Joy in Community and Cause" – Philippians 1:1-11

Scott Paulson - September 28, 2025

## Main thought:

True joy is not found in circumstances, but in having our identity centered in Christ, rooted in Christian community, committed to the cause of the Gospel, and confident that God will complete His work in us.

## Ice-Breaker

- What kind of group or community did you feel most connected to growing up?
- Anyone willing to share a funny or dumb thing you did to feel connected to a group?

## Questions

- 1. What stood out to you from Philippians 1:1-11?
- 2. Paul expresses deep thankfulness and joy in his prayers for the believers. Why do you think gratitude and joy are so closely connected in prayer?
- 3. What does fellowship or partnership in Christ look like in everyday life? Can you give an example?
- 4. How does having a sense of community impact your joy compared to feeling disconnected? Why is community essential to finding lasting joy?
- 5. Can you share a time when you experienced joy through purpose, mission, or serving a cause?
- 6. Why is it important to remember that our ultimate mission is advancing the Gospel, and that we are partners in this work together?
- 7. What are some common distractions or obstacles that pull us away from God's mission in our lives? How do we overcome them?
- 8. Paul says, "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion". How does this promise give hope in your spiritual journey?
- 9. What stands out to you in Paul's prayer in verses 9–11?
  - a. Verse 9 talks about love abounding "more and more in knowledge and depth of insight". What does that look like practically in our lives?
  - b. How does growing in love and discernment help us live "pure and blameless" lives (v. 10)?
- 10. Who in your life could you intentionally pray Philippians 1:9–11 over this week? How might that impact both them and you?

**Prayer**: Take some time to pray for each other.