

## WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////



This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends or your group.

### For Discussion:

1. Recall a joyful memory of a time shared between you and other believers.
2. What evidence does Paul’s greeting offer to show that he desired to be in partnership with others?
3. What does it mean to be partners in the Gospel? What characteristics describe this kind of relationship?
4. Consider the points of Paul’s outline. How do your relationships resemble the kind of partnership Paul describes?
5. How do we find, build, and nurture the kind of relationship Paul had with the Philippians?

### MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS SERIES

*Phil. 1:3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 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, 6 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.*



January 12 & 13, 2019 | Philippians 1:1-11 | Dennis Miller, pastor

### THE SCRIPTURES

*Phil. 1:1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God’s holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons: 2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 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, 6 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. 7 It 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. 8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.*

### TWO REMINDERS FOR THIS SERIES

1. HAPPINESS is based on circumstances, while joy is based on a RELATIONSHIP.
2. The CLOSER you are to Jesus, the more JOY you will know.

J - Jesus      O - Others      Y - Yourself

### A SHORT REVIEW

1. Paul visited Philippi on his SECOND missionary adventure, but it wasn’t in his OWN plans. While there for only a few days, God did INCREDIBLE things through Paul.

2. On his THIRD journey, Paul visited the Philippian people briefly again, and these people became very IMPORTANT to Paul and brought him great joy.

3. While in PRISON in Rome, Paul wrote a “letter of joy” to the church at Philippi. Although SHORT (104 verses), the word JOY is used 16 times.

### **THE GREETING (1-2)**

*Phil. 1:1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons: 2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

1. Paul and Timothy are TOGETHER as this letter is written and consider themselves SERVANTS (doulos, δοῦλος).

2. There is now a STRONG church in Philippi and the people are called “holy” or “SAINTS” (as all Christians should be).

3. The church has been established with appointed LEADERS (elders and deacons). Paul greets them with grace and peace.

### **THE GOSPEL (3-5)**

*Phil. 1:3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 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,*

1. If you REMEMBER what happened in Philippi, you understand why Paul’s memories from there were so JOYFUL (Lydia, slave girl, earthquake, jailor).

2. Paul PRAYS for these people and does so with great joy. The only way his joy could be greater is if the church were more UNIFIED (2:2).

*Phil 2:2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.*

3. The people of Philippi had always been “PARTNERS in the gospel”: from the FIRST day with Lydia until the most recent GIFT that Paul had received from the church.

*Phil. 4:18 I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent.*

### **THE GOOD WORK (6)**

*Phil. 1:6 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.*

1. It is GOOD to remember that Christ BEGAN the work in us. We didn’t “FIND” Him.

2. And what He began — He will FINISH!

*Rom. 8:30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.*

### **THE GRACE (7)**

*Phil. 1:7 It 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.*

1. Paul makes no APOLOGIES for the way he FEELS about the Philippians.

2. It is NORMAL that those who share GRACE have a special place in your heart!

### **THE GROWTH (8-9)**

*Phil. 1:8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,*

1. As he continues to express his LOVE, his greatest prayer is that his friends continue to GROW in their faith.

*Phil 1:9 And I pray this: that your love will keep on growing in knowledge and every kind of discernment, (Holman Bible)*

2. Here we see the value of KNOWLEDGE and WISDOM or — *His Word, Our Walk.*

### **THE GLORY (10-11)**

*Phil. 1:10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.*

— If we live according to God’s will and PLAN, we produce FRUIT and GOD gets the glory.

### **APPLICATION**

1. Think US instead of me.

2. Make room for GRACE-filled relationships.

• Greet others warmly.

• Partner with those who are like-minded in Christ.

• Build stories together which glorify God.