

PHILIPPIANS  
Joyful Partnership  
Lesson 1  
Chapter 1:1-26

Author/Date: Apostle Paul, c. 61/62 AD

Philippi: Roman city (c. 30b.c.) located in Macedonia (upper Greece) Church planted in c.51a.d. (first church in Europe)

Paul's special relationship with the Philippian church: calls them his "joy and crown" 4:1

**BACKGROUND:** Acts 16:12-40<sup>12</sup> and from there to Philippi, a Roman colony, which is a leading city of that district of Macedonia. We stayed in that city for a number of days.<sup>13</sup> On the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate by the river, where we thought there was a place of prayer. We sat down and spoke to the women gathered there.<sup>14</sup> A woman named \_\_\_\_\_, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God, was listening. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was spoken by Paul.<sup>15</sup> After she and her household were baptized, she urged us, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

**Paul and Silas in Prison**<sup>18</sup> And she did this for many days. But Paul was greatly aggravated and turning to the spirit, said, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out right away.<sup>22</sup> Then the mob joined in the attack against them, and the chief magistrates stripped off their clothes and ordered them to be beaten with rods.<sup>23</sup> After they had inflicted many blows on them, they threw them in jail, ordering the jailer to keep them securely guarded.<sup>24</sup> Receiving such an order, he put them into the inner prison and secured their feet in the stocks.<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were *praying and singing hymns to God*, and the prisoners were listening to them.<sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the jail were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains came loose.<sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw the doors of the prison open, he drew his sword and was going to kill himself, since he thought the prisoners had escaped.<sup>28</sup> But Paul called out in a loud voice, "Don't harm yourself, because all of us are here!"<sup>29</sup> Then the jailer called for lights, rushed in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.<sup>30</sup> Then he escorted them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"<sup>31</sup> So they said, "\_\_\_\_\_ on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."<sup>32</sup> Then they spoke the message of the Lord to him along with everyone in his house.<sup>33</sup> He took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds. Right away he and all his family were baptized.<sup>34</sup> He brought them into his house, set a meal before them, and rejoiced because he had believed God with his entire household.....<sup>40</sup> After leaving the jail, they came to Lydia's house where they saw and encouraged the brothers, and departed.

The "3" (1) a \_\_\_\_\_ (2) a \_\_\_\_\_ (3) a \_\_\_\_\_! Homogeneous? \_\_\_\_\_

## Greeting

1 Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus: To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons. <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

What personal description did Paul leave out here and why? \_\_\_\_\_

Grace: \_\_\_\_\_ Peace: \_\_\_\_\_

## Thanksgiving and Prayer

<sup>3</sup> I give thanks to my God for every remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup> always praying with joy for all of you in my every prayer,

Thanks-Remembrance-Joy: J \_\_\_\_\_ O \_\_\_\_\_ Y \_\_\_\_\_

Paul loved \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. partnership (GK) \_\_\_\_\_

The Why (support) 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

and When! \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>6</sup> I am sure of this, that He who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, and you are all partners with me in grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and establishment of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how deeply I miss all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

Good work: \_\_\_\_\_ v.7 When do friends show their affection the most?

<sup>9</sup> **And I pray this:** that your love will keep on growing in knowledge and every kind of discernment, <sup>10</sup> so that you can approve the things that are superior and can be pure and blameless in the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup> filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

“If you \_\_\_\_\_ someone, you will \_\_\_\_\_ for them”

Objective of this prayer: \_\_\_\_\_ of the Philippians. v. 2:12, 3:12-14

Prayer Outline: (look for parts of prayer in rest of letter)

1. Petition: v. 9 Love is to \_\_\_\_\_. Love for who? \_\_\_\_\_

the source of our love - \_\_\_\_\_

the foundation - \_\_\_\_\_ (biblically informed) Hosea 4:1,6

the application - \_\_\_\_\_ How are you going to apply this “love”?

2. The Purpose: v. 10-11a

A. Choosing things that are \_\_\_\_\_/superior. (right/wrong, matter/don't matter, true/false)

B. Being pure and blameless. Are you ready for the “day of Christ”? Matthew 25

\_\_\_\_\_ - without hidden motive or pretense. What you \_\_\_\_\_ is what you \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ - without offense, not causing others to stumble

C. Being filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of righteousness

given to believers by faith alone, comes from \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves,  
what is the fruit? Gal 5:22-23  
where does fruit come from?

### 3. The Praise: v. 11b

For God's glory: everything "he" does, everything we should do! Matt 6:9, John 15:8

## Advance of the Gospel (Maintaining Joy)

"...it's amazing how little you complain about things inside the church when you are reaching out to lost people" CCE, p. 10

<sup>12</sup> Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has actually resulted in the advance of the gospel, <sup>13</sup> so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard, and to everyone else, that my imprisonment is in the cause of Christ. <sup>14</sup> Most of the brothers in the Lord have gained confidence from my imprisonment and dare even more to speak the message fearlessly.

"Regardless of what situation you are in, \_\_\_\_\_ on the gospel of Christ"

Key Words: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (confidence)

"Why are we cowards when it comes to speaking the gospel?" CCE p. 55

<sup>5</sup> To be sure, some preach Christ out of envy and strife, but others out of good will. These do so out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; <sup>17</sup> the others proclaim Christ out of rivalry, not sincerely, seeking to cause me anxiety in my imprisonment. <sup>18</sup> What does it matter? Just that in every way, whether out of false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed. And in this I rejoice. ...

2 groups: (1) the \_\_\_\_\_ and (2) the \_\_\_\_\_. Group 1 – different situation than "false teachers."

Beware of \_\_\_\_\_!

## Living Is Christ

<sup>18b</sup> Yes, and I will rejoice (Hab 3:18; Job 1:20-21) <sup>19</sup> because I know this will lead to my deliverance through your prayers and help from the Spirit of Jesus Christ. <sup>20</sup> My eager expectation and hope is that I will not be ashamed about anything, but that now as always, with all boldness, Christ will be highly honored in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup> For me, living is Christ and dying is gain.

In life, suffering or death, Paul will \_\_\_\_\_

The prayers of the people/Spirit of Jesus Christ discussion....

boldness \_\_\_\_\_ highly honored \_\_\_\_\_

v21 – Paul’s \_\_\_\_\_ statement!

<sup>22</sup> Now if I live on in the flesh, this means *fruitful* work for me; and I don’t know which one I should choose. <sup>23</sup> I am pressured by both. I have the desire to depart and be with Christ—which is far better— <sup>24</sup> but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup> Since I am persuaded of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup> so that, because of me, your confidence may grow in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

pressured – Paul’s \_\_\_\_\_ departing?

Paul is going to stay around because/for:

1. their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

2. that confidence may \_\_\_\_\_

3. to \_\_\_\_\_ them again.

“Everyone wants to live, and everyone will die. But there is only one way to have a life worth living and a death worth dying, and that is to look to the One who conquered death..” CCE, p. 73

### PAUL AND PHILIPPIAN CHURCH TIME LINE

Born ?	Damascus Conversion AD 31-37	First /Second Mission Trip AD 46-48/ AD 49-52	Established church AD 51	Third Mission Trip AD 52-57	Writes letter to the church at Philippi AD 61/62	Paul's release from 1 <sup>st</sup> imprisonment AD 62	Perhaps re- Visited Philippi AD 62-64	Paul imprisoned In Rom second time AD 64	Executed by Nero AD 67
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