



BYOB READ TOGETHER: PHILIPPIANS

WEEK 2 - PARTNERS IN THE GOOD NEWS

JANUARY 9/10, 2021

OVERVIEW

Paul was in prison when he wrote the letter to the church in Philippi. And yet, his perspective on the world was not gloomy despair, but active hope. In this part of the letter, he reflects on both his call and the mission to which he devoted his life. He is eager to see his readers give themselves as he has to the message of the gospel. Why is this such a big deal to Paul? Because the gospel brings hope, love, confidence, courage, and fruit in our lives. It's a message which should breathe fresh air into us even as it compels us to share it with our world.

*I am certain that God, who began the good work within you,
will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.
Philippians 1:6*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the most uncomfortable you have ever been?
2. Do you feel like a partner with other believers? Why or why not?
3. Name some ways that people typically deepen their partnerships.
4. How do you see God "carrying on the good works" that He began in you? In others?
5. Paul states in Philippians 1:9-10 *I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return.* Give an example of ways you have begun to understand what really matters and applied that to live a pure life.
6. Do you think motive matters when preaching/sharing Christ? Why or why not?
7. Paul has an amazing attitude - finding joy in suffering (Philippians 1:18) and being torn between life and death (Philippians 1:21). How could we learn to have an attitude like Paul?
8. Barry says that Paul's "self-emptying" mindset is a challenge to us to ask ourselves: "is it all about me?" or "is it all about Christ?" How do we keep ourselves focused on what really matters?

RESOURCES

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