

**SERMON:** Finding Joy In Christ's Work In Us  
**SERIES:** Philippians: Living In Joy  
**SPEAKER:** Pastor Brady

April 8, 2018

**CONNECT** (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

**REVIEW** (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

**SCRIPTURE:**

*Philippians 1:1-11.*

<sup>1</sup> *Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,*

*To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:*

<sup>2</sup> *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>3</sup> *I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup> always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup> so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for 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.*

**SERMON OUTLINE:**

I. Our Union with Christ.

II. The Work of Christ in You.

III. The Work of Christ through You.

**GROW** (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. Is union with Christ a new idea to you? How do these words in verses 1-2 describe both us and Christ: *servants, saints in Christ, grace and peace*?
2. Do you live a joy filled life? Where do you tend to look for your joy? As you think through Philippians 1:1-11, what do you see as Paul's source of joy?
3. Re-read verse 5. Paul talks about the Philippians' partnership in the gospel. Think about your relationship to the church. Would you call it a partnership in the gospel? Or is it more just social or tradition?
4. Re-read verse 6. How does our union with Christ connect to the promise? How does this promise empower our joy and love even in the middle of our suffering and sin?
5. Looking at the way you live, what might we say you love the most? What do we learn about the nature of love from verses 7-11 (combine this with 1 Corinthians 13)? What does "love in action" look like (think: What did Christ's love in action look like)?
6. Our love should abound in all knowledge. How can you as a group get to know each other better so that you can love each other better.

Spend some time praying for each other's love to abound and for the fruit of righteousness to grow in each other's lives.