



## *Philippians Part 1: "Prayers of Joy"*

1. Read Philippians 1:1. Paul and Timothy identified themselves as "servants of Christ Jesus." What does it mean for your everyday life that YOU are a servant of Christ Jesus?
2. Paul referred to the Philippians as "God's holy people in Christ Jesus." In the King James Version "holy people" is translated "saints". Think through and discuss how it would impact your relationships with your parents, siblings, relatives, friends, spouse, children, coworkers, employees, boss, neighbors, and fellow congregational members if you viewed them all as "saints" or as "God's holy people".
3. Read Philippians 1:2-6. What specific things does Paul teach us to pray for each other?
4. Read Philippians 1:7-8. Why do you think Paul had such a deep affection for the Philippians, and how can you cultivate such an affection for your own faith community?
5. Read Philippians 1:9-11. Do you see a connection between knowledge, discernment, and love in your journey as a Christian? Why or why not?
6. PRAYER TIME: Use Paul's prayer as a model as you pray for each other.



**Acts 1:8**, *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

1. What instructions did Jesus give His disciples before He returned to heaven?
2. Why did Jesus say they needed to wait for the Holy Spirit?
3. How would you have felt if you were one of those disciples? How is your job as a follower of Jesus similar to those first disciples?
4. You never met Jesus like those first disciples did. You never saw him die or saw him after he was raised to life. Why are you still a "witness" for Jesus?
5. How can you be a witness for Jesus this week?