
Live This Way Filled with Fruit

The Letter to the Philippians

Philippi was an important Roman city in the first century.

We know that Paul went to the city in Acts 16.

Philippians is one of Paul's 'prison epistles'.

Thanksgiving

Philippians 1:3-5

The mindset of Paul in the face of suffering, his relationships and his purpose bring the joy of his salvation to the front of his mind.

Mature Faith expresses itself in joy, regardless of circumstances.

Past, Present, Future

Philippians 1:6-7

“The day of Jesus Christ”

Changing Mindsets

It is right to have this mindset and perspective because there is a deep relational investment that sits right alongside the revelation of God’s work through the Good News.

Good News Boldness

Philippians 1:12-14

He isn’t chained to the guards, the guards are chained to him!

What are the people and circumstances that you have felt chained to, that God wants to shift your perspective on?

Philippians 1:15-18

Paul is giving us a healthy gut-check.

Filled With Fruit

Philippians 1:8-10

A three-fold structure: a request, a purpose, and a result.

A Request:

The Purpose:

The Result:

Discussion Questions

1. Take some time to read Philippians 1:1-18
 - What stands out for you as major themes of Paul's introduction to this letter?
2. What does thanksgiving look like in your life?
3. What role does it take as you live out your faith?
4. What would it mean to you that God is committed to finishing His saving work in your life, right up until Jesus redeems and restores the heavens and the earth?
5. How does this change your perspective/mindset about God's good news and your experience of it?
6. Paul's boldness in speaking about Jesus to those who imprisoned him had an impact on the Philippians. Stop and think about it for a second:
 - You might think you are stuck in a circumstance, but what if that circumstance is stuck with you?
 - You might be stuck with a problematic family, but what if you changed your view and realised that the difficult family is stuck with you, and the good news of Jesus?
7. Who are the people and circumstances that you have felt chained to, that God wants to shift your perspective on?
8. Can you share any testimony where God has already done this in your life?
9. Paul prays for the Philippian church in 1:9-11. Spend some time praying that over yourself and/or your group as you gather.