

Week 1 Introductory Discussion Questions

1. Is this your first Bible study?
 - a. If so, how are you hoping to grow in your faith through the Bible study?
 - b. If not, how have you grown in your faith through previous Bible studies?
2. After identifying himself and Timothy as co-authors, Paul gives thanks for the Philippian Christians. What are some of the reasons why he gives thanks? What are some reasons why you give thanks to God?
3. Paul prays for the Philippians. How does he ask God to bless and help the Philippian Christians?
4. How does Paul see his imprisonment as an opportunity to advance the gospel? What are some ways in which you have suffered, and through prayer, have realized God working through it for you and others?
5. Paul is caught between living and continuing his earthly ministry and offering his life in martyrdom. In short, he is detached from earthly things (fame, money, power, possessions, pleasure, etc.). In looking at your life, what are you attached to and how can you grow in deeper freedom with Christ?
6. Paul uses an athletic and military term of "struggling" together as he and the Philippians Christians grow in unity and stand against opponents. How can you help build the Church's unity and stand for the sake of the gospel?
7. Conclude with prayer intentions and ask someone lead your group in a closing prayer.