

A LETTER of JOY

Philippians 1:1-11

DISCUSSION GUIDE

– Kevin Burr –

The Big Idea

Despite difficulties like being physically abused and imprisoned, Paul found joy because of the good things God has done for him in Jesus and the people who worked with Paul to share the good news about Jesus. *“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now; and I’m confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 1:3-6).*

Discussion Questions

1. Paul and Timothy worked closely together to tell other people about Jesus. Who do you have in your life like this? If you don’t have someone like this in your life, how could you do that?
2. Why did Paul have joy even though he was in prison?
3. How have you become more like Jesus since you became a Christian? What things did you struggle with in the past that you don’t struggle with now?
4. Paul thanks God for the Philippians because for a long time they have been partners with Paul to share the good news with other people about Jesus. How do you help your friends or family live like Jesus, and how do they help you live like Jesus?
5. It’s good when people tell us they are praying for us, but it’s even better when they tell us *what* they’re praying for us, like what Paul told the Philippians in 1:9-11. When did someone tell you what they were praying for you? What was it like hearing that? When have you told someone what you were praying for them? How did they react?

