



# PHILIPPIANS

— BEING JOYFUL DISCIPLES —

Joy-Filled Prayer

Philippians 1:1-11

# PHILIPPIANS

- Authorship: Paul (around 61 A.D.)
- Recipient: The church in Philippi
- Major Theme: Joy  
*(Greek words for 'joy' & 'rejoicing' used 16 times)*
- Context: written while Paul was in prison and faced with the possibility of death.

# JOY

“it’s an attitude God’s people adopt,  
not because of happy circumstances  
but because of their hope in God’s love  
and promise ” (Mackie 2017)

# JOY-FILLED PRAYER

*Philippians 1:1-11*

- A. The **FOUNDATION** of Paul's joy-filled prayer (v.1-8)
- B. The **FOCUS** of Paul's joy-filled Prayer (v.9-11)

The **FOUNDATION** of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

## 1. Their shared **Gospel-Identity** (v.1-2)

### ***Philippians 1:1-2***

*<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.*



The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

Q: WHAT IS A SAINT?

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Q: **WHAT IS A SAINT?**

The Roman Catholic idea is complicated...

The Biblical definition is simple...

A saint is **anyone who is in Christ Jesus (Phil 1:1)**



The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

## 2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

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The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

1. Their shared **Gospel-Identity** (v.1-2)

Our GOSPEL-IDENTITY in Christ Jesus does NOT depend on our present location or our current circumstances!



The **FOUNDATION** of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

1. Their shared Gospel-Identity (v.1-2)

2. Their shared **Gospel-Partnership** (v.3-5)

### **Philippians 1:3-5**

<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.

The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

1. Their shared Gospel-Identity (v.1-2)
2. Their shared **Gospel-Partnership** (v.3-5)

*“The heart of true fellowship is self-sacrificing conformity to a shared vision”* **D.A. Carson**



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The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

1. Their shared Gospel-Identity (v.1-2)
2. Their shared Gospel-Partnership (v.3-5)
3. The reality of **God's grace to us** in Christ Jesus (v.7-8)

The **FOUNDATION** of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

3. The reality of **God's grace to us** in Christ Jesus (v.7-8)

### **Philippians 1:7-8**

<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.**

The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

3. The reality of **God's grace to us** in Christ Jesus (v.7-8)

Key principle:

Spiritual transformation flows from **a growing understanding** of and **experience with** God's **unconditional love** for us in Christ Jesus.

The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

3. The reality of **God's grace to us** in  
Christ Jesus (v.7-8)

**1 John 4:19 (NIV)**

We love because he first loved us.

The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

### Ephesians 3:17-19 (NLT)

“<sup>17</sup> Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. <sup>18</sup> And may you have the power to **understand**, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. <sup>19</sup> May you **experience** the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be **made complete** with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.”



The FOUNDATION of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.1-8)

“Real prayer comes not from gritting our teeth, but from falling in love.”

Richard Foster.

The FOCUS of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.9-11)

1. For their **love to increase** (v.9)

### Philippians 1:9

<sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer: **that your love may abound more and more** in knowledge and depth of insight,

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**Philippians 1:9 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer: **that your love may abound more and more** in knowledge and depth of insight,

**1 Thessalonians 4:10 (NLT)**

Indeed, you already show your love for all the believers throughout Macedonia. Even so, dear brothers and sisters, **we urge you to love them even more.**

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*cf. 1 Corinthians 13:6; Ephesians 4:15*

The **FOCUS** of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.9-11)

1. For their love to increase (v.9)
2. For the **wisdom to make the best choices** (v.10)

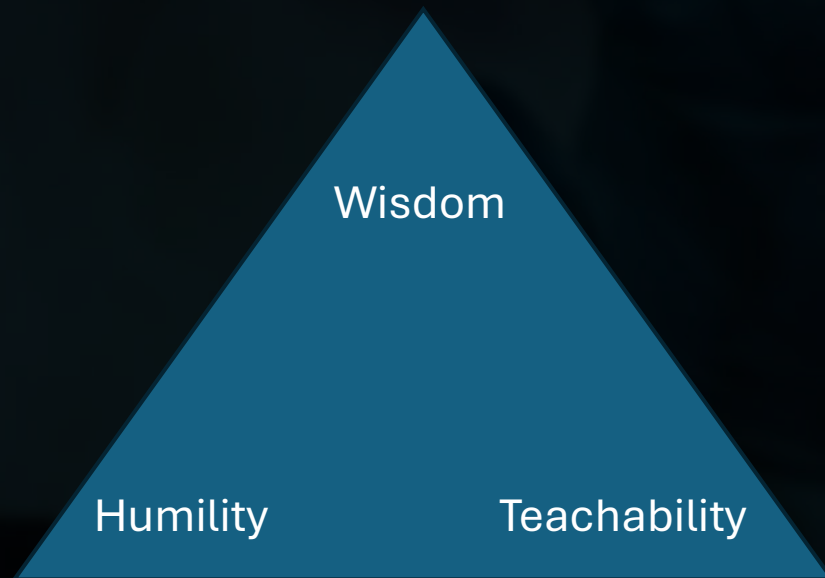
### **Philippians 1:10**

<sup>10</sup> so that you **may approve what is excellent**, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,



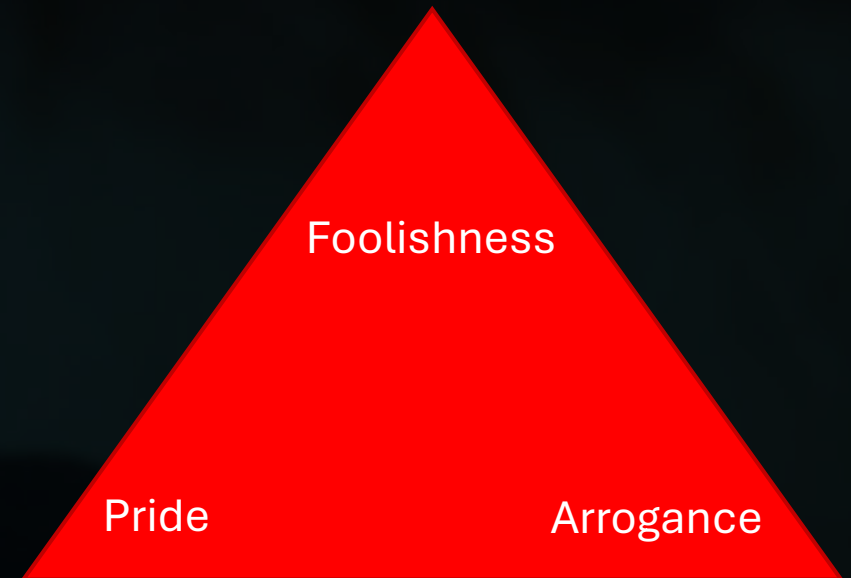
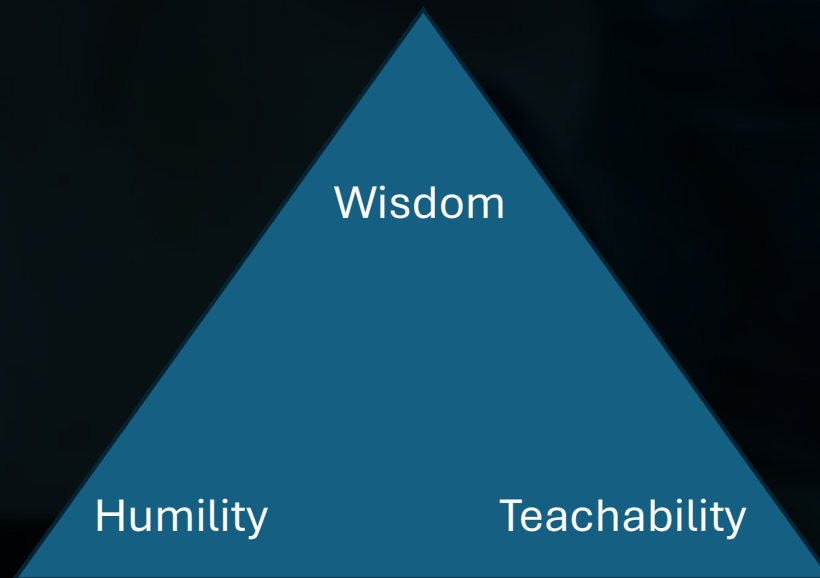
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## The FOCUS of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.9-11)

1. For their love to increase (v.9)
2. For the wisdom to make the best choices (v.10)
3. For **perseverance in holiness** in their daily walk (v.10)

### Philippians 1:10

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The **FOCUS** of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.9-11)

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### **Philippians 1:10**

<sup>10</sup> ...and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,

This is **NOT** a command to be perfect in our pursuit,  
but rather **to be persistent** in our pursuit.

The **FOCUS** of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.9-11)

3. For **perseverance in holiness** in their daily walk (v.6, 10)

### **Philippians 1:10**

<sup>10</sup> ...and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,

### **Philippians 1:6**

<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.



## The FOCUS of Paul's joy-filled prayer. (v.9-11)

1. For their love to increase (v.9)
2. For the wisdom to make the best choices (v.10)
3. For perseverance in holiness in their daily walk (v.10)
4. For **fruitfulness to the glory and praise of God** (v.11)

*<sup>11</sup> filled with **the fruit of righteousness** that comes through Jesus Christ, **to the glory and praise of God.***

## Ephesians 2:10

<sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

# JOY-FILLED PRAYER

*Philippians 1:1-11*

## A. Paul's FOUNDATION of Joy (v.1-8)

1. Their shared **Gospel-Identity** (v.1-2)
2. Their shared **Gospel-Partnership** (fellowship) (v.3-5)
3. The reality of **God's grace** to us in Christ Jesus

## A. Paul's FOCUS in Prayer (v.9-11)

1. For **love** to increase (v.9)
2. For **wisdom** to make the best choices (v.10)
3. For **perseverance** in holiness (v.10)
4. For **fruitfulness** to the glory and praise of God (v.11)



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