

Women's Bible Study Discussion Questions

Philippians 1:1-11

1. At the opening of Paul's letter, he greets the Philippians as "saints." Yet, the Philippian church is struggling. There is rivalry and disunity among them and many are substituting worldly foundations for the gospel. What does Paul reference to them as "saints" remind you about your identity in Christ?
2. What does Paul refer to in verses 3-5 and 7 that brings him joy? "Koinonia," this partnership or fellowship is one of the central themes of Philippians. How is fellowship a resource of God's grace to you? How does it further the gospel?
3. In verse 6, we are promised that Christ will bring to completion the work He has started in us. We have been justified by our faith, yet He promises sanctification and real *change* as we submit to Him. It is not self help that will complete the work, it is the gospel. But what does that really mean? How does the gospel change you in hard situations? If you need help beginning, fill in the statement below:
In my situation with _____, the
gospel can change me by reminding me _____
and encouraging me to _____.
4. Why do painful circumstances and hardship advance the gospel?
5. In verses 9-11, what are the characteristics that Paul hopes will continue to be developed in the Philippians? What characteristic do you long for more of in your own life? Write a prayer to Jesus, asking Him to produce this in you, by the power of the Holy Spirit.