

## Fellowship in the Gospel

### *Philippians 1:3-8*

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#### I. The reason for the letter. *Philippians 1:3-5*

Similar to *Philippians 4:8* where we read about the praiseworthy things we are to meditate on, I believe our \_\_\_\_\_ toward ministering to others is about where our focus is as well.

- Prayer is not about changing God's mind; it is about aligning our \_\_\_\_\_ to His. Remember the words of Christ, "**Nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.**"

Fellowship in Greek is the word *koinonia*, which means *association, community, communion, or joint \_\_\_\_\_*. **Amos 3:3**

#### II. Jesus finishes what He starts. *Philippians 1:6*

First, Paul was probably referring to the **good work** of the Philippians joining him with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel and their church's faithful giving to Paul's ministry.

- There is cooperation between believers and the Lord when it comes to fulfilling His call in our lives. It amazes me how the Lord has called His followers into a \_\_\_\_\_ with Him.

The second explanation for the **good work** in *Philippians 1:6* has to do with our \_\_\_\_\_. **1 John 5:11-12**

#### III. Chained for the Gospel. *Philippians 1:7-8*

The Philippians had shared in Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ and shared in the cost of the Gospel, so Paul was confident that the Lord was working in them and would finish the work He began as well.

- Paul not only told these Christians that he loved them, he proved it over and over again. These Christians also \_\_\_\_\_ Paul how much they loved him as well. **1 Corinthians 13:13**

*"Love is an activity, the essential activity, of God Himself, and when men love either Him or their fellow men they are doing (however imperfectly) what \_\_\_\_\_ does."* (Barrett)

#### IV. Practical application.

*"Without a heart of \_\_\_\_\_ there can be no real effective, eternal ministry — and it should be a glad sacrifice, knowing the blessedness of it all."* (David Guzik)

**Our treasure.** The Philippians " \_\_\_\_\_ " with Paul to spread the Gospel through prayer, friendship, and financial support.

**Our time.** There are 168 hours in a week; *how many of those hours are you giving to \_\_\_\_\_ the King?*

**Our talents.** Someone has said, *"Every believer is created for ministry, gifted for ministry, authorized for ministry, and \_\_\_\_\_ for ministry."*

#### Small Group Discussion

*Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?*

1. Read **Philippians 1:3-4**. Why is our attitude so important when it comes to ministering to others in the body of Christ? Does every person who attends church serve Christ as their main motivation? What would people who you have served with in the past say about you and your motivation to serve Jesus?  
**Matthew 5:14-16, Matthew 25:40, Mark 10:42-45, Galatians 6:9-10**
2. What is service and why is it essential to the Christian life? How can you improve this area of your own life? (Warren Wiersbe)  
**Proverbs 3:27, Ephesians 2:10**
3. Read **Philippians 1:5**. Discuss the meaning and importance of the word fellowship found in point I. of the sermon note sheet.  
**Amos 3:3, Acts 2:42, 2 Corinthians 13:14, 1 John 1:7**
4. Read **Philippians 1:6**. Discuss the two different explanations given for this verse during the sermon.  
**Matthew 7:22-23, John 6:44, John 12:33, 2 Corinthians 13:5, Philippians 2:12-13, 1 John 5:11-12**
5. Read **Philippians 1:7-8**. How was Paul chained for the gospel? How did the Philippians partake with Paul?  
**John 3:16, 1 Corinthians 13:13, Philippians 4:15, Titus 2:13-14, Hebrews 11:1-6**
6. Discuss the three points within the Practical Application of the sermon.  
**Matthew 6:21, Acts 20:33-35, Hebrews 6:10, 1 Peter 4:7-11**