

Joy Filled Prisoner
Philippians 1:1-2

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Happiness usually depends on _____, but **joy** is based on a relationship with Jesus regardless of our circumstances.

I. Background of the letter.

The city of Philippi was named after Alexander the Great's father and this church was the first Church started in _____.

- "He encouraged the Church to remain joyful in the face of persecution, continue to be humble in service, and walk _____ in faith." (Henry Blackaby)

II. The author's greeting. Philippians 1:1a

Although Paul thought he was a religious man, once he was called by the Lord, he _____ and obeyed Jesus, by faith.

- **1 Timothy 1:2 To Timothy, my true child in the _____.**

In **Exodus 21:6** "That awl represents the nail that affixed Christ to the cross, and we must expect it in every true act of _____."

(F.B. Meyer)

- A Christ follower is _____ by love for our Master.
1 Corinthians 5:14

III. "You are either a saint or an aint." (McGee) Philippians 1:1b

"Faithfulness to God is impossible unless it springs from a trusting, _____ heart." (David Wilkerson)

- A person is only a Christian if they have a _____ that was given to them from above. **John 3:1-6**

IV. The Siamese twins of Paul's writing. Philippians 1:2

It is God's **grace** that gives the spiritual position to the believer so once they are identified with Christ, they are able to draw on the _____ of Christ for power for daily living.

- A person must be saved by God's _____ first because no one can experience God's **peace** until they first receive God's _____.

The word **God** in **Philippians 1:2** is the Greek word _____ which means the Godhead, Trinity. (Stong's G2316)

- God is completely _____ but He is also merciful. He gave humans the gift of free will, by not forcing anyone to follow Him.

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. How did Paul end up in Philippi? How did the Church at Philippi get started?
Acts 16:6-14
2. Read **Philippians 1:1a**. Who was Paul? Who was Timothy?
Acts 7:59-8:1, Acts 9:1-5, Acts 22:1-5, Acts 16:1-3, 1 Timothy 1:2
3. Read **Exodus 21:2-6**. Discuss the description of an Old Testament **bondservant** and then discuss the similarities between a **bondservant** and a follower of Christ.
John 1:11-12, 1 Corinthians 6:20, 1 Corinthians 7:22-23, 1 Corinthians 5:14
4. Read **Philippians 1:1b**. Discuss how a person becomes a **saint**. What does it mean to be born again?
Ephesians 2:8-9, James 2:19, John 3:1-6
5. Read **Philippians 1:2**. Why is it important that Paul said grace first before he mentioned peace? Discuss the difference between the peace of God and having peace with God.
Romans 5:1-2, Philippians 4:7
6. Discuss the Greek word *Theos* used for **God** in **Philippians 1:2**. Discuss the Greek word *Kyrios* used for **Lord** in **Philippians 1:2**.
7. Read **Philippians 4:8**. Discuss the practical application of the sermon.