

Philippians 1:1-11
Series – Partners in Grace
Message – Serving and Growing
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Fifth Reformed Church
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Background

- Philippians is a letter.
- Paul and the Philippians were friends.
- All good ministry _____ from good relationships.

Serving Together

- Philippians 1:3-6
- The Greek word used for _____ is *koinonia*, which literally means “fellowship.”
- God _____ your faith.
- God will _____ your faith.

Growing in Christ

- Philippians 1:9-11
- Paul prays that their love will **surpass** all measurement in knowledge and depth of insight.
- Definitions:
 - _____ – meaning “basic clarity of thinking”
(Karl Barth, Epistle to the Philippians, p.21).

- _____ – meaning “capacity for practical, concrete judgment” (Barth, p.21).
 - _____ – This includes both the mental and practical side of recognizing what is best – knowing what is right and doing it.
 - _____ – This refers to an inner kind of purity of the mind and heart. This is the inner freedom of knowing that you’re not pursuing anything contrary to the ways of Jesus.
- Galatians 5:22-23

Reflection Questions

1. How is the relationship Paul had with the Philippians significant for us today?
2. Do you consider yourself a partner in the gospel? Share more.
3. Read Philippians 1:6 aloud. Discuss the significance that God initiated our faith and that God will complete it. How could this be good news to our culture?
4. Look at the definitions listed above in the “Growing in Christ” section. Do those definitions help you understand Philippians 1:9-11 in a new or different way? How?
5. Which of those definitions resonates most with you? Why?
6. What is God saying to you?
7. What are you going to do about it?