

Philippians 1:1-11 New Living Translation

Greetings from Paul

1 This letter is from Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus. I am writing to all of God's holy people in Philippi who belong to Christ Jesus, including the church leaders^[a] and deacons.

2 May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

Paul's Thanksgiving and Prayer

3 Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. **4** Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, **5** for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. **6** And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

7 So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart. You share with me the special favor of God, both in my imprisonment and in defending and confirming the truth of the Good News. **8** God knows how much I love you and long for you with the tender compassion of Christ Jesus.

9 I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. **10** For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. **11** May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ^[b]—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

Footnotes

a. 1:1 Or *overseers*, or *bishops*.

b. 1:11 Greek with the fruit of righteousness through Jesus Christ.

Questions:

1. What does Paul give thanks to about the Philippians?
2. What do you think is “the good work” that God began in them?
3. How does God help you to live for him? Explain
4. Describe in your own words the main ideas in Paul's prayer in verse 9-11. (Say this prayer in your own words).
5. What idea (or ideas) do you need to live out in this prayer?

Pray in pairs or as a group for God to work them out in your life.