

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Philippians 1:1-11

These questions are for the **October 6, 2024** message, "JOY IN CHRIST: unwavering confidence in uncertain times." Please read the sermon passage (Philippians 1:1-11) together out loud.

Passage Outline

The Church loves each other best when we . . .

1. ...recognize our real identity. (1-2)
 - a. The label, "Saint," applies to all who have trusted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
 - b. Spiritual maturity is not a prerequisite for "sainthood."
2. ...remember our shared work (and mission). (3-5)
 - a. Partnership in the Gospel
 - b. See also Acts 16
3. ...anticipate God's ongoing faithfulness with confidence. (6-8)
 - a. The Gospel is a work that God has begun, and He will be faithful to complete
 - b. "Don't let anyone's resistance to the Gospel take away your joy!"
4. ...pray that our love matures. (9-11)
 - a. As we grow in spiritual maturity, our lives will bear visible "fruit"
 - b. A mature love for the Church brings glory to God

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. If you've trusted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, and as you seek to grow in faith and spiritual maturity, what difference does it make to know that you are counted among the saints? (Philippians 1:1-2; see also Hebrews 10:14)
2. What are some common experiences (both hardships and obvious blessings) that unite in spirit and mission you with others in your Life Group? For instance, can you cite God's goodness to you in times of need, unwanted challenges that God used to stretch and grow you, God using you to bring others to Himself, the Holy Spirit working in and through you to point others to Jesus?
3. Share with your group an experience or historical event in the life of your church that built up your faith and created a sense of unity with other followers of Jesus there.
4. How has God shown you His goodness and His faithfulness in the past? Based on those past experiences, do you believe that God can be trusted in the future? Why or why not?
5. What are some ways that your faith and your love for others in the Church have matured over time? What is one "fruit of righteousness" (Philippians 1:11) others may see growing in you, that is a clear indication that God is at work in your life?