



## **Week 2 Discussion Questions**

### **Thanksgiving and Prayer**

### **Philippians 1:3-11**

#### **Icebreaker:**

How have you seen God working in your life lately (over the summer)?

#### **Read this week's passages: Philippians 1:3-11**

What stands out to you from the passages or sermon this week?

When reading a New Testament letter, we are reading someone else's mail. In order to understand the meaning of Paul's letter to the Philippians for us today, we need to first understand its original meaning. Discuss the following questions together to better situate ourselves with the context of this letter:

Who is Paul (the author of the letter)?

Who are the Philippians and where is Philippi (Recipient of the letter)?

What situation prompted Paul to write this letter?

What is Paul trying to address or communicate to the Philippians in the letter?

What details does Paul provide to us about the Philippians in these verses?

What kinds of challenges would the people in Philippi (especially Christians) be facing in their day to day lives?

What kinds of challenges are you currently facing and where is it difficult to have faith?

List and discuss together each of the ways Paul encourages the faith of the Philippians and what he prays would be true in their lives. Discuss what these encouragements mean practically (i.e. what is "partnership in the gospel" or the "fruit of righteousness" and what would it look like?)

Which of these encouragements do you need to be true in your life right now?

How is wavering faith encouraged by Paul's declaration in verse 6?

This letter of encouragement comes from Paul, a church planter/missionary, to a group of his fellow believers who have demonstrated steady faith and commitment to one another. What motivates Paul to pray for his friends in Philippi?

# ✧ To Live *is Christ* ✧

A Philippians Mark-it-Up series

How has your faith been strengthened and encouraged by your community at Calvary or by other fellow believers?

How does Paul understand Christ's role in his life and the life of the Church in these verses?