

# Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, October 11, 2020



## THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

The central theme of Paul's letter to the Philippians is that eternal joy is only found in Jesus Christ and is experienced both personally and in corporately when we persistently pursue, apply, and spread the gospel.

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

- How does Paul open his letter? What does it mean to be a *servant/slave* of Christ (Romans 6)? What blessing does he bestow on the church, and where does it originate? How do grace and peace relate to the gospel?
- Why does he call the recipients of his letter *saints*? What two leadership roles/offices does he recognize?
- What was the cultural makeup of Philippi in the first century? How was the church planted in Philippi (Acts 16)?
- Explain how this letter is relevant to us living in a different time, geographical location, and cultural context.
- What does the content of the letter (Pauls' gratitude, commands, warnings, answers) reveal about Paul's circumstances the church at Philippi?
- What is joy, and how is it different from happiness? What's the basis of genuine joy? How and why should we pursue joy both personally and in community?