

Series "Joy In Christ"
"Praying For You"
Philippians 1:9-11
Study-3

Philippians 1 – Joy In Living:

Joy Despite Unfulfilled Desires,
Joy Despite Circumstances, Joy Despite Conflicts

Philippians 1:4 always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all,

Being Thankful Leads To Being Prayerful: always offering prayer

**(Intercessory Prayer) that produces a mature Christian,
so that God would be glorified and praised!**

Verses – 1-2 Salutation: Introduction of Philippians

Verses – 3-8 Thanksgiving: (Thank God For You)

Verses – 9-11 Prayer: (To mature as believers, unity and witness)

Thought Of Our Passage: "Prayer To Love Abundantly, Discern What Is Best, And Being Blameless, Resembling Christ, To God's Glory And Praise."

- 1. Verse 9 Prayer For Love:**
- 2. Verse 10 Prayer For Evaluation:**
- 3. Verse 10 Prayer To Be Blameless:**
- 4. Verse 11 Prayer For Righteousness:**

1. Verse 9 Prayer For Love:

Philippians 1:9 And this I pray,

Context - Paul has spoken about how thankful he was for these believers and how they were on his mind and heart. **Philippians 1:3-4**

Being Thankful Leads To Being Prayerful:

One of the great privileges of being a child of God is bringing others to God through prayer! Think of the High Priest who had 12 stones on his breastplate, which represented the 12 tribes of Israel. To keep them on his heart. **(Exodus 28:15-29)**

that your love - Paul uses the highest form of love "*Agape*" it is a word that describes God's love. It takes knowledge of God and a new birth through His power to produce this love.

When a person is born again, they are filled with God's love through the Holy Spirit. Romans 5:5; 1 John 4:19

Loving Christians is the evidence that we are born again - **1 John 3:14**

Why Does Paul Pray For Their Love?

They (Like Us) need prayer and instruction on love
(Utilize God's Power To Love, to be reminded, kept before us)

Why Does Paul Pray For Their Love?

The possibility of believers being disobedient to God's command to love one another. **John 13:34-35**

Paul's 1st Prayer Request Is For The Most Important Christian Quality: Matthew 22:35-40

Prayer For A Fuller Expression of Love: love may abound

Paul was never satisfied with where he was with the Lord.

Philippians 3:13-14

still more and more

He could have stopped with "**more**" but he did not.
As love deepens, it grows up! A fuller expression of that Love.
Describing a river that overflows its banks!

This implanted seed of love, however, must grow.

It must be cultivated and manifested daily.

It must not be limited or contained.

1 Thessalonians 4:9-10

A Discriminating Love: in real knowledge and all discernment,

We need real love in real knowledge together.

Romans 12:9 Let love be without hypocrisy.

Love Must Be Expressed In Real Knowledge:

real knowledge – "*knowing God intimately through God revealing Himself, and the believer placing his faith in Him*"

It is a knowledge that is derived through the study of God's Word.

Colossians 1:9

1 John 4:7-8

Hebrews 12:6 (True love involves discipline)

Love Must Be Expressed In Real Judgment: and all discernment - (Judgment, perception, discrimination),

(Only used here in the NT) Used in Greek literature of "*moral perception*"

The Word of God is the discerner of the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

In The Church Fellowship, We Need These Two Qualities:

- (1) Real Knowledge**
- (2) All Discernment,**

2. Verse 10 Prayer For Evaluation:

Philippians 1:10 A Finer Evaluation Of Life:

so that you may approve the things that are excellent, this word **approve** – word **"critic"** *"to put to the test, to test something or someone"*
"Discrimination, to discriminate"

The verb **"approve"** was used for assaying metals.

the things that are excellent,

Literally, *"The things that really matter"* **Romans 2:18**

The difference between primary and secondary.

The eternal verses the temporal.

1 Corinthians 10:13 way of escape –

A nautical term that describes sailors in a storm who begin to throw overboard those things that are not needed for survival. (Gold, silver, etc.)

3. Verse 10 Prayer To Be Blameless:

Philippians 1:10 in order to be sincere –

"Sun examined, judged by the sun"

Some sculptors would use wax to fill in the mistakes.

(God's Word is the light, sun)

Paul prays that his friends would have the kind of character that can pass the test. (Our English word sincere comes from a Latin word that means

"unadulterated, pure, unmixed.")

Sincere Opposite to Hypocrisy: Hypocrite – "To speak underneath"

and blameless – Greek word *"Scandelon"*

To cause a scandal. *Used of a stick that would spring the trap.*

(This is before Man.) Romans 14:20-21

Duration Of Our Holiness: until the day of Christ:

1 John 2:28 (NLT)

4. Verse 11 Prayer For Righteousness:

Philippians 1:11 Results of a life that is sincere and without offense: having been filled with the fruit (fruit eight times in Philippians 1) of righteousness Our outward righteousness

(Love is the root, righteousness is the fruit) fruit of righteousness

Fruit of the Spirit (**Gal. 5:22–23**),
Fruit of soul-winning (**Rom. 1:13**),
Fruit unto holiness (**Rom. 6:22**),
Fruit of good works (**Col. 1:10**),
Fruit of thanksgiving (**Heb. 13:15**).

fruit of righteousness John 15:5, 16-17

righteousness – *"in the right"* **wickedness** – *"in the wrong"* **righteousness** -
literally *"a God-kind of righteousness, God-righteousness"*

What Is The Righteousness Of God? Righteousness –
"worth, a worth before God. Acceptance before God is given to you"
You can't earn it, don't deserve it, but it is given.

Righteousness is seen through the cross, Jesus suffered in our place.

which comes through Jesus Christ, Romans 8:4; Philippians 3:8-10

We need the power! Romans 8:11; Philippians 4:13

**to the glory and praise of God. Acts 12:21-23; 1 Peter 4:11;
Matthew 5:16**

Application:

1. John Stott *"Our love grows soft if it is not strengthened by truth, and our truth grows hard if it is not softened by love."*
2. The Need Of Spiritual Evaluation. Discerning The Difference Between Primary And Secondary. The Eternal Versus The Temporal. What Is Really Important? What Really Matters?
3. That Our Lives Would Not Be Lived Hypocritically. What We Say, Is What We Truly Are. Walking Our Talk.
4. Love Is The Root; Righteousness Is The Fruit. That Our Lives Would Be Lived In Such A Way That God Would Be Seen And God Would Alone Receive The Glory And The Praise.