



**MISSION CITY**  
BIBLE CHURCH

**DATE:** Sunday, May 15, 2022

**TITLE:** Abiding Through Fellowship

**SERIES:** Abide: Pursuing the Presence and Power of God for My Life

**PASSAGE:** Philippians 1:3-11

**INTRO:**

“partnership” (v5) = Gr. koinonia = Eng. fellowship

**Four marks of true fellowship:**

1. True fellowship means we \_\_\_\_\_ for one another \_\_\_\_\_ (v3-5)
  
2. True fellowship means we \_\_\_\_\_ one another \_\_\_\_\_ (v6)
  
3. True fellowship means we \_\_\_\_\_ for one another \_\_\_\_\_ (v7-8)
  
4. True fellowship means we \_\_\_\_\_ to one another \_\_\_\_\_ (v9-11)

Committing to one another means praying that we would:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ what is \_\_\_\_\_ (v9)
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ what is \_\_\_\_\_ (v10)
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ what is \_\_\_\_\_ (v10-11)



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**DISCUSSION:**

The keyword in the passage is “partnership” (v5); it’s the Greek word “koinonia” where we get our word “fellowship.” Fellowship is not just ‘sharing something in common’ but ‘participating in something together.’

1. What sorts of activities bring more joy when we participate with a friend instead of alone? Why does the addition of other people add to our joy?
2. Make a list of Paul’s words and phrases in verses 3-11 that convince you that Paul is a good friend and mentor to the saints in Philippi?
3. Looking at the above list, how many of Paul’s actions and thoughts are evident in your life and relationships?
4. Paul places his confidence in God to complete the work God began in the believers (v6). What work had God started in the believers? What work has God begun in you? How confident are you about God’s ability to accomplish His plans?
5. In what current situations are you tempted to doubt God’s ability to finish what He started?
6. Read Psalm 90:2 and Isaiah 46:8-11. How do these verses impact your temptation to doubt? What are your go-to verses when you are tempted to doubt God?
7. Verses 7-8 illustrate how deeply Paul cares for the people. The kindest thing a friend can do is point another to Christ first for salvation and then for daily encouragement and victory over sin. How does Paul encourage his fellow believers and redirect their focus to Christ?
8. In verses 9-11, Paul expresses his desires for the people. What are your responsibilities in making verses 9-11 a reality in your life? Consider Hebrews 6:1, Colossians 3:12, and 2 Corinthians 5:20-21.

**APPLICATION:**

Using verses 3-11 as a model, write out a prayer of encouragement for a brother or sister in Christ. Then, send it to them!

**PRAYER POINTS** (based on Philippians 1:3-11):

**THE PRAISEWORTHY QUALITIES OF GOD:**

- God is my God – he’s personal (v3)
- God hears my prayers and gives me joy in them (v4)
- God has brought us together in the gospel (v5)
- God has started a good work in us and will finish it (v6)
- Jesus is coming again for us (v6, 10)
- God is worthy of all glory and praise for the work he does in us (v11)

**REVERENCE:**

- Lord, we worship you because . . .
- God, thank you for giving us this partnership in the gospel through . . .
- God, we praise you because we can see your good work in . . .

**RESPONSE:**

- Lord, I confess that I have a hard time seeing your work is good when . . .
- Father, I admit that sometimes it frustrates me when I don’t understand what you’re doing because . . .

**REQUEST:**

- God, help me to believe that you are my God and you are working in me even when . . .
- Lord help us, as a church, to see how much we need each other especially when . . .

**READINESS:**

- Lord, when I’m tempted to distance myself from the rest of the body of Christ, help me to . . .
- Lord, when the world calls us to go a different way, we will stand together in the gospel so that . . .