

"Philippians: Partners in Mission"

Session 1

Philippians 1

1. The gospel heart of mission (Phil 1:3-18a)

Paul's mission is based on the gospel of Jesus Christ. But how does he express that gospel, and how does the gospel shape Paul himself as a missionary?

a) Introducing Philippians: some big ideas in the letter

gospel

partnership

joy

perseverance

b) The gospel as the heart of Paul's relationship with the Christians in Philippi

c) Paul's feelings because of the gospel

d) Paul's expectations because of the gospel

e) Paul's selflessness because of the gospel

2. Godly living and mission (Phil 1:27-2:18)

Paul speaks about living in a way that is 'worthy of the gospel'.

How does he spell this out in terms of everyday action?

a) Life matters – the connection between gospel and action

b) The lifestyle that decorates the gospel

c) Having the mind of Christ

d) Soaking in salvation

e) Joy and suffering

3. Generosity in mission (Phil 4:10-20)

Philippians is a thank-you letter.

What did partnership in mission look like for Paul, and how might it work for us?

a) Real life partnerships in Philippi

b) Is partnership needed?

c) Practical partnership

d) The fruit that increases

e) God's generosity