

**PRESS ON  
IN CONFIDENCE****A STUDY IN PHILIPPIANS AND COLOSSIANS****LESSON 1 PHILIPPIANS 1:1-6**

1. What truth, verse, or insight from last week's Overview of **Philippians & Colossians** was meaningful to you this week, and why?
  
2. As you begin, pray and share with God any excitement you feel or admit any reluctance. Ask God for insight about who He is and how you can make what you learn a part of your life. Then read **Philippians 1:1-6**, and jot down first impressions or observations.
  
3. Read **Acts 16:6-15** to put Paul's letter to the Philippians in context.
  - a) In **16:6-12**, what do you find interesting about how God directed Paul to Philippi? How does Paul's handling of redirection challenge or encourage you?
  
  - b) In **16:13-15** and **40**, what warms your heart about the way the church began in Philippi?
  
4. **Philippians 1:1** serves as the envelope for Paul's message written to "all God's holy people."
  - a) Look up the following verses and note what each one adds to your understanding of God as Holy.
    - **Isaiah 8:13**
  
    - **Isaiah 57:15**
  
  - b) How did the recipients of Paul's letter become God's holy people? Personalize it for you.
    - **Colossians 1:22**
  
    - **2 Timothy 1:9**

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5. a) Read **Philippians 1:2**. What do you learn about peace that comes to us “from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” in:
- **Isaiah 53:5**
  
  - **John 16:33**
  
  - **Romans 5:1**
- b) Which of these verses about His peace will you take to heart and why?
6. a) In **Philippians 1:1-2**, the phrases “of Christ,” “in Christ,” and “from God” highlight God’s grace in uniting us to Jesus. What do the following verses say about God’s grace?
- **Ephesians 2:8-9**
  
  - **Titus 2:11-12**
- b) How have these verses in 6a about God’s grace challenged, encouraged or reoriented your thinking?
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7. As you read **Philippians 1:3-6**, bear in mind that Paul was writing from a Roman prison.
- a) What were the sources or reasons for Paul’s thankfulness and joy?
- b) How are you inspired by Paul’s thankful heart in the middle of difficult circumstances? Be specific.
8. In **V4**, Paul exploded with joy! Where do you generally look to find joy, and how is it the same or different from Paul’s view of joy?
9. Identify some aspects of Paul’s prayers that coach you in your own prayers.

10. What do you think Paul meant in **V5** that they had partnership in the gospel? Do you experience this kind of partnership – when and where?

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11. a) Put **V6** in your own words.

b) Where have you seen evidence of God's unstoppable work in your life or someone else's?

c) For whom does the promise in **V6** give you fresh hope? Give details.

12. How has God encouraged you to *press on in confidence*, thankfulness, and joy in the gritty day-to-day of your life? Explain.

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### DIGGING DEEPER

1. a) **Philippians 1:6** promises that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion. God does this good work by His transforming grace in the life of a believer. Share how grace specifically empowers us from the following verses:

- **2 Corinthians 1:12**
  
- **2 Corinthians 12:9**

b) Which one boosts your confidence in a particular way this week?

2. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **Philippians 1:6**

b) Write a prayer bringing together your needs this week and God's promise of grace, peace or His good work being completed in you.

**NAME**

**PRAYER REQUEST**