

“FINDING YOUR PLACE: TOGETHER IN THE GOSPEL”

PART 6

“SERVING TOGETHER... IN THE FAITH OF THE GOSPEL”

“Qualifications & Expectations: What It Takes to Make the Team”
(Philippians 2:19-30)

INTRODUCTION:

WHERE WE HAVE BEEN:

- We are partners with a new and shared **purpose...** (1:12-30)
 - ...that **Christ** might be **magnified**. (1:12-21)
 - ...that the **Church** might be **edified**. (1:22-26)
 - ...that the **gospel** might be **publicized**. (1:27-30)
- We are partners with a new and shared **perspective...** (2:1-11)
 - If we are going to **live** in a manner worthy of the gospel (1:27), experiencing the **unity** and **harmony** that are necessary for both **community** and effective **ministry**, then we must also **think** in a manner worthy of the gospel, emulating the **selfless** and **servant** mind of Jesus Christ.
- We are partners in a new and shared **process...** (1:6-11; 2:12-18)
 - **Working out our salvation** in the context of **community**!
 - Salvation is not viewed as an **objective** to be **achieved** nor as a **benefit** to be **acquired**, but as a **possession** to be **appropriated** fully.
 - Do so **fearfully**, (“...with fear and trembling...”), **faithfully**, (“...in my presence or in my absence...”), and **fragrantly**, (“..without grumbling and disputing...”),...
 - Because **God** is **working** in us (v. 13), the **world** is **watching** around us (v. 15), and the **day of Christ** is **waiting** for us.

OVERVIEW OF AND BACKGROUND TO THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS:

“Joy for the Journey: Experiencing the Firstfruits of our Heavenly Citizenship”

- Learning to **sing** in the midst of **suffering**: Three affirmations which marked the life of Paul and provided the basis for his remarkable joy:
 1. God _____ me here. (Acts 16:6-12)
 2. God _____ me here. (Acts 16:19-27)
 3. God _____ me here. (Acts 16:13-18, 28-40)

FOUR MARKS OF AN EFFECTIVE MINISTER & INDISPENSABLE TEAM MEMBER:

1A. AN EFFECTIVE MINISTER... IS _____. (V.20a)

"For I have no one else of kindred spirit..."

2A. AN EFFECTIVE MINISTER... IS _____. (V.20b)

"...who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare."

3A. AN EFFECTIVE MINISTER... IS _____. (V.22)

"But you know of his proven worth,..." (v. 22)

4A. AN EFFECTIVE MINISTER... IS _____. (V.27-30)

*"For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him,... Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold men like him in high regard; because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was deficient in your service to me."
(v. 27-30)*

CONCLUSION: