

## A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of September 27, 2020

### Where was Paul when he wrote this letter?

- He writes from Prison (Phil 1:12-30) in 61AD
- He references the "imperial guard" (Phil 1:13) and "Caesar's household" (4:22)
- The language of Phil 1:7-26 suggests legal proceeding at a highest level
- Paul had freedom to preach and receive visitors (Phil 1:12-14; Acts 28:16-31)

### Who is Timothy?

- His name is of Greek origin and means "Honoring God"
- His father was Greek and his mother, Eunice, was Jewish
- His grandmother, Lois, taught Timothy the Scripture (II Timothy 1:5; 3:15)
- He is a native of Lystra and may have been a convert to Christianity during Paul's first missionary journey (Acts 14:6-23)
- When Paul came to Lystra on his second journey, Timothy was well respected by believers (Acts 16:1-2), and Paul had Timothy circumcised (Acts 16:3)
- Timothy accompanied Paul, and was sent on many crucial missions (Acts 17:14-15; 18:5; 19:22; 20:4; Romans 16:21; I Corinthians 16:10; II Corinthians 1:19; I Thessalonians 3:2,6)
- He was present at the founding of the Philippian church (Acts 16)
- He was close to Paul; both names are listed as authors of six Paul's letters (II Corinthians 1:1; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:1; I Thessalonians 1:1; II Thessalonians 1:1; Philemon 1)
- Paul refers to Timothy as his "child in faith" (I Corinthians 4:17; I Timothy 1:2; II Timothy 1:2)

## Grace and Peace to You

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from [Philippians 1:1-2](#)

<sup>1</sup> Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons: <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- What is the best way to communicate?
- Here we have a letter written some ten years after the planting of the church in Philippi. A letter from prison and a man facing death possibly.
- All letters in the ancient world begin this way, with the identity of the writer and the recipient.
- Servants-- why not sons? Who are we?
- "Our lives are like a small speck of dust in comparison to the eternal God, and we cannot be the true heroes of the world. But we can live lives of service, loving God and neighbor in a way that does allow fear of death (or anything else for that matter) to master us." (Todd Billings)
- A look at the prayers for the sick in the Book of Common Prayer: "*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, graciously comfort your servant \_\_\_\_\_ in his suffering...*"
- Philippians 2 says much to us about a 'servant'
- Moses and most of the prophets were called servants
- The worldview of the New Testament
- Overseers and Deacons
- Saints
- The political and spiritual nature of this blessing.
- Grace & Peace (shalom) as opposed to the *Pax Romana*
- The Lord Jesus Christ (every knee will bow)

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### For Further Study: *Philippians 1:1-2*

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- How does Paul **identify himself** and Timothy? Why is this significant?
- To whom does Paul **address his letter**?
- What is a “**saint**”? Why does Paul address the Philippians as “saints”?
- What kind of **relationship** is there between all the **saints**, the **overseers**, and the **deacons**?
- Paul longs for the church at Philippi to know the grace and peace that only God can give.
  - What is God's **grace**?
  - What is God's **peace**?
- How do **you need God's grace and peace this week**? Spend time in **prayer** asking our Heavenly Father to give his people grace & peace through Jesus Christ.

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