

15. The “day of Christ” is when Christ comes again as judge (1 Cor 1.7-8 etc). Why is Paul’s focus on that day in verses verses 6, 10 and chapter 2 verse 16?

## Pray

Pray for the Lancashire Festival of Hope from 21st to 23rd September. Pray for Franklin Graham as he speaks, for all those involved in preparation, organisation at the events and follow-up. Pray that it would be used by God that by His grace people would attend, hear the gospel and respond.

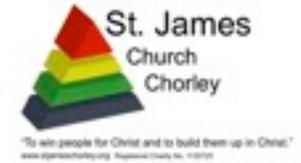
Pray for our fellowship together as a church and also for our support in prayer, giving and encouragement to others. The main folk we support financially are Help the Homeless, The Barnabas Fund, The Bible Society, Christians Against Poverty, Paul Hunter (Crosslinks), Tom and Jasmine Heaton (OMF) and Alex and Kate Phillips (Crosslinks).

We are encouraging people to sign the petition on religious freedom. Pray that this would have a positive effect. Pray for those who have ben affected personally by changes in our own country in recent years. Pray also for those in other countries with much less freedom and often open persecution.

*David Phillips,  
September 2018*

# Philippians

## Study 1 : Thanksgiving and Prayer Philippians 1.1-11



## All the Saints

### Read Phil 1.1-2

1. Who are “all the saints” mentioned? Why do you think in later times people came to think saints were certain specoca; believers rather than all believers?
2. What ministry roles are named or held by the people mentioned in verse 1?
3. In answering questions 2 how did you describe Timothy? How many of Paul’s letters are also said to be from Timothy? We can see from v3 etc that it was really Paul writing, why then do you think he mentions Timothy, and some others, so often?

*As Paul and the other Apostles neared the end of their lives the Bible shows us leaders like Timothy and Titus having oversight beyond just local churches. Whilst overseer and presbyter are titles used of the same roles in the bible soon the title overseer (bishop) came to be used of those with such wider oversight, including appointing elders (Tit 1.5).*

## Partnership

### Read Phil 1.3-8

4. When you pray do you give thanks for others? What sort of things do you give thanks for?

5. What did Paul give thanks for in these verses and why?

6. Paul mentions their partnership in verse 5 (the Greek word is *koinonia*, communion). **Read Acts 16.11-15**. How had that partnership been shown 'from the first day'.

7. What do **Philippians 2.25** and **4.14-18** also show us about their partnership?

8. Though miles away in prison how was Paul showing partnership with the Philippians?

9. In a church like St James how can all the saints be involved in partnership in the gospel?

## Completion

### Read Phil 1.6 again and verses 9-11

10. In verse 6 why does Paul have confidence about the eternal future of the saints in Philippi? Is his confidence to do with them, or God, or both?

11. If Paul is so confident about them why did he pray for them as he does in v9-11 or exhort them to stand firm in chapter 4 verse 1? Was he muddled in his thinking? Explain your answer, but don't be surprised if you find it hard to do.

12. Make a list of what Paul prays for in verses 9 to 11. This is a good list to use as a basis of your own prayers for others.

13. The things Paul mentions in verses 9-10a are not just side by side, but a progression - love, knowledge, discernment, approve. How are these things linked together? What does it show about the nature of love?

14. The second half of verse 10 and verse 11 describe more of the outcomes of abounding love. What do you think is meant by each?