

## GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

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**Read Philippians 1:12-18** Make 2-3 observations of what you see in the text and note any questions that you have. Try to answer your questions by using information you find in the passage. Then answer some or all of the questions below.

Paul addresses the congregation at Philippi as “brothers and sisters.”

Why is it significant that Paul chooses family language instead of friendship language or patron-client language?

What is the biblical/theological basis for Paul using this term?

What are the social, moral, and ethical implications for Christians if we are brothers and sisters with one another?

Why does it matter that Paul speaks of the gospel advancing as if it is progressing by its own power instead of by the will or ability of Paul and the other Christians?

Paul sees his imprisonment as an opportunity to preach the gospel to people whom he would not have otherwise had access to (guards, officials, etc).

What causes Paul to think and act in this way?

Have bad circumstances ever opened doors to expose you to people you couldn't have otherwise ministered to? What did you do?

How can we learn to be more like Paul and to use EVERY opportunity to witness and share the gospel?

Paul says the brothers and sisters “dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.”

What causes you to feel fear when sharing the gospel?

What are these fears grounded in?

What might it look like to grow in daring and courage for the gospel?

Who can help you grow in this?

Paul seems to think that God can work through the gospel regardless of people's motives in sharing it. What do you think about this? Does it encourage you or trouble you? Why?

Pastor Adam said that God often transforms defeats into victories.

What do you think of this?

Where do you see it in scripture?

Where have you seen it in your life?

Where do you currently long to see it happen again?

Close by praying for the gospel to advance in the St Croix Valley area.

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