

# Gospel Partnerships

## Philippians 1:1-11

March 6/7-2010

Describe what it's like to be in partnership with someone/others for the cause of the Gospel? What are the joys? What are the challenges? What have you seen God do through it?

Read Acts 13:1-3 and 16:11-15. How did this partnership between Paul and the church in Philippi start?

Philippians 1:1 points us to an important first step to any church partnership. See if you can see the two partnerships of verse 1a. What do you think happens if we start a partnership with another church and don't act as servants?

Grace and peace are a beautiful greeting (verse 2); why might we need those in a partnership? Any examples come to mind from your experience?

What is the reason for Paul's joy and hope in verses 3-6? If we believe the truth of verse 6, how should that affect our lives today?

Gospel partnerships knit hearts together in and for Christ. What is keeping you from that kind of affection? How do you know if you have it (affection for your partners in Christ)? Look at 7-11 again.

Notice the different aspects of Gospel partnerships. Look up the following passages in Philippians and note them: 1:3,9,19/2:19-25/4:14-18

What can you do as a person, small group, family or couple to strengthen our partnership with our partner church in Monrovia, Liberia? How do you think the church in Africa will help us grow as Christ-followers?

God uses people to bring the hope of Christ to the world. Who are you partnering with? What changes is God asking you to make in light of this week's message?

***Pray for the church in Liberia. Praise God for all He is doing. Pray for Pastor David Kiamu as he heads up Church Planting for all of Africa. Pray for Pastor Matthew and Karen and their work at Free Church in Monrovia. Pray for their Muslim neighborhood, for the 150 kids in their school, for the street kids in the slums, for their four daughter churches. Pray for Pastor Mohamed in Bo, Sierra Leone and his young church. They need a church building and some land. Pray for their protection as they serve in a predominantly Muslim community and for the church in Cavoma up country. Pray for the young church leaders, for a growing faith and courage. Pray verses 9-11 over all our brothers and sisters in Africa.***