



# PHILIPPIANS

BASICS FOR BELIEVERS

Lesson One:

# **Put the Gospel First (Part 1)**

*Philippians 1:1-26*

# What is the gospel?

## **Especially**

God's good news about His salvation from sins in Jesus Christ.

## **Generally**

God's nature, character, ways, life, and will in His walking Word, Jesus Christ, and in His written Word, the Bible.

**The ongoing pervasive dangers surrounding:**

A domesticated version of the gospel.

## **Modern developments contributing to this dangerous temptation to tame God's gospel:**

1. Secularization
2. Self-indulgence
3. Philosophical pluralism

## God wants us to live by:

- His heavenly certainties
- His objective truth
- His grace through faith

## Encouragement in two main spiritual objectives for holy living:

- To maintain basic Christian commitments
- To be on guard against an array of dangers

These dangers are located in two areas of life:

- Temptations from within (Prov. 4:23, 3:5-8; Jer. 17:9-10)
- Spiritual seduction and opposition from without (1 Cor. 16:13; 2 Cor. 11:3)

What is Paul's burden as he writes to these Christians?

What is God telling us by His Spirit through these same words?



# PUT THE GOSPEL FIRST.

**Put the fellowship of the gospel at the center of your relationships with believers. (Phil. 1:3-8)**

*Paul's thankfulness to God for what he knows is operating in the lives of these believers:*

1. Their faithful memory of him — they are committed to Paul's success in gospel work.
2. What does Paul mean by their partnership with him?

The heart of true fellowship is self-sacrificing conformity to a shared vision — a vision that calls forth our commitment.

# PUT THE GOSPEL FIRST.

**Put the fellowship of the gospel at the center of your relationships with believers. (Phil. 1:3-8)**

*Paul's thankfulness to God for what he knows is operating in the lives of these believers:*

1. Their faithful memory of him.
2. What does Paul mean by their partnership with him?
3. God's continuing work in their lives.

What evidence for this work is Paul focusing on?

Perseverance in holiness and truth.

GRACE CHURCH  
WILLIAMSBURG