

Under Construction

Philippians 1:1-11

Big Idea: "Under construction: Thank you for your patience." God is still working on us, shaping us to be more like Jesus. We're called to be servants and saints, growing in love, joy, and righteousness. He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it.

Key Takeaways:

1. In Christ, we are both servants and saints.
2. God's grace and peace come through a right relationship with Jesus.
3. We should cultivate gratitude for those who have impacted our spiritual growth.
4. Jesus has started a good work in believers and will complete it.
5. We are called to partner in sharing the gospel with others.
6. God is continually sanctifying us to become more like Christ.

Scriptures:

- ☐ Philippians 3:10
- ☐ Acts 16
- ☐ 2 Corinthians 11:22-29
- ☐ Jeremiah 18:1-6
- ☐ Isaiah 64:8
- ☐ 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
- ☐ Ephesians 4:20-24

Opening Question:

Can you recall a person who has significantly impacted your spiritual journey, and how did they help you grow in your faith?

Discussion Questions:

Pastor Tim mentioned that the highest rank in the body of Christ is servant. How does this challenge our typical views of status and importance?

Reflect on verse 3: "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you." Who are the people in your life that you thank God for whenever you think of them? Why?

How does the idea that we are "under construction" spiritually encourage or challenge you?

The sermon emphasized the importance of allowing others to "operate on our hearts." What are some barriers that prevent us from being vulnerable in our spiritual relationships?

Pastor Tim spoke about craving righteousness. What does this look like in practical terms in our daily lives?

How can we balance the truth that we are positionally righteous in Christ with the ongoing process of practical sanctification?

Practical Applications:

1. Write a note of gratitude: Choose someone who has positively impacted your spiritual journey and write them a heartfelt note of thanks this week.
2. Prayer partners: Pair up with someone in the group to pray for each other daily this week, focusing on areas where you need God's transforming work.
3. Gospel opportunities: Identify one person in your life with whom you can share the gospel or invite to church in the coming week.
4. Accountability check-in: Share one area of your life where you feel God is currently "under construction" and ask the group to lovingly hold you accountable in that area.
5. Memorize Philippians 1:6: Commit to memorizing this verse as a reminder of God's ongoing work in your life.

Closing Thought/Prayer:

End the session by thanking God for His ongoing work in each person's life and asking for His help in applying the lessons learned.
