

“Possessing True JOY”
Philippians: A Book Study (2)
“The Single Mind”
6/1/08

Text: 1:1-11

The single mind we see in chapter one is a focused mind on the joy found in the Gospel message.

For Paul – despite his shackled condition, the fellowship with other Christ-followers is rich.

1. YOU’RE ALWAYS ON MY M – 1:3-6 *“³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”*

APPLICATION THOTS: Lack of joy reveals itself in three ways:

2. YOU’RE ALWAYS IN MY H – 1:7-8 *“⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.”*

NOTE: Christ-centered love is *not* something that we work up; it is something that God does in us and through us.

APPLICATION THOT: How can we tell if we are truly bound in love to other Christians?

3. YOU’RE ALWAYS A P FOR PRAYER – 1:9-11 *“⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”*

We see five specific things Paul prayed on behalf of the Philippians. Their spiritual progress....

IN L _____

IN DISCERNING EXCELLENCE

IN INTEGRITY

IN G _____ WORKS

IN GIVING GOD G _____ & P _____

You can have this same rich fellowship with others that Paul describes for us here in Philippians. It starts with an admission of needed forgiveness and restoration. God loves you so much He sent His One and Only to die for you. He seeks that renewed fellowship. Interested?