

## Further Study – Jan 10, 2020

Read: Philippians 1:1-26

If you heard the sermon this week, was there any part of the message or scripture passage that was particularly important or meaningful to you? If so, what?

### Understanding Questions:

- How does Paul address the Philippians in the opening to his letter? And who is accompanying Paul at this moment in time?
- What is the overwhelming emotion Paul conveys to the Philippians in his letter? How do you know this? What are some examples of the way Paul expresses this emotion?
- What does Paul say may have looked like a bad turn of events, but actually turned out to be a really good thing? Where, besides in the Philippian church, has the gospel been taking especially deep root lately, according to Paul? Name all the different groups of people who are now proclaiming Christ that Paul mentions. Which of these groups is the most surprising?
- What are the different ways that Paul says Christ is being proclaimed in his current environment? Which is preferable and what does that look like?

### Application Questions:

- In verse 1, Paul calls all baptized Christians saints, not just a few. How can the baptized be saints in the world today? How do we encourage one another in our own callings?
- What lessons can we take from the attitude Paul takes toward his persecution and imprisonment? How does he handle it and what outlook does he have for his life and, more importantly, for God's ongoing work in the world? What things does he not do that one might expect from someone in a similar situation?
- What things are you thankful for in your life? What brings you joy? In hard circumstances, what has helped you to remain grounded in Christ's love for us and our neighbors? How does prayer fit into all of this for you?