



unbreakable **JOY**

LIVING OUT YOUR FAITH
A STUDY IN PHILIPPIANS

Setting the Scene

- Philippians was written by the Apostle Paul from a Roman jail
- He wrote the letter to the church in Philippi (v. 1-2)
- Paul had already been on his 3 major missionary journeys
- The theme of the book is: **JOY**



**When unbreakable joy is found,
Godly love will abound.**

Paul starts his letter with 3 P's:

- **Praise**
- **Promise**
- **Prayer**

Praise (verses 1-5)

- Paul used the Greek greeting of “grace” and a Greek translation of the Hebrew greeting “shalom” meaning “peace”
- Notice the order of grace and peace – when we understand His grace, we have peace
- He thanked God in every remembrance of them. Can that be said of us?

Promise (verses 6-8)

God keeps His promises. He will finish what He started!

Prayer (verses 9-11)

Abound – “to run over or overflow”

- Their love should not just be sentimental or emotional, but also using knowledge and discernment

Prayer (verses 9-11)

“knowledge” - intimate understanding based on relationship with the person (learning the person)

“discernment” - only place in NT this word appears

- Greek word for “moral or ethical understanding based upon intellect and the senses” (application of learning)

Prayer (verses 9-11)

Why is this important???

- Discern between “the good” and “the excellent”
- Discern (“dokimazo” in Gk.) “approving”, describing metal testing
- Pure in Greek is “eilikrineis” literally means “to judge by sunlight”
- Blameless = cause no one to stumble (1 Cor. 10:32)

Prayer (verses 9-11)

The Fruits of Righteousness

- The “fruit” of your life shows others what has filled you.
- Described in Gal. 5:22-23
- These fruits magnify God, **not self**

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Let's Apply It!

- What would it look like in your life to have a practical “partnership in the gospel”?
- Why is it so easy sometimes to give God a timetable, negotiate, worry, or stress when we feel like God isn't moving the way we would like Him to? What truths of God can I cling to in those moments?
- Why is having discernment in our spiritual life so important, and what area of my life could I use more discernment in?
- Thinking on the fruit of your life, what fruit do you desire to grow in yourself?