

34 AD – Paul’s conversion  
 35-45 AD – Paul’s “silent years” in Arabia and Tarsus  
 46-48 AD – First missionary journey  
 49-50 AD – Paul attends Jerusalem Council  
 50 AD Galatians  
 50-52 AD – Second missionary journey  
 51-52 AD 1 & 2 Thessalonians  
 53-58 AD – Third missionary journey  
 56 AD 1 & 2 Corinthians  
 57 AD Romans  
 58-60 AD – Paul’s arrest, imprisonment, & journey to Rome  
 60 AD Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon  
 62-67 AD – Paul’s trip to Spain  
 63 AD 1 Timothy  
 64 AD Titus  
 67 AD 2 Timothy  
 67 AD – Paul executed in Rome by Nero

*Philippians 1:1-2*

*1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:  
 2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Acts 16:13-15*

*On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.  
 14 One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message.  
 15 When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to*

*her home.*

**The Roman Empire in 1<sup>st</sup> century**



Rome...

- light of the world
- savior from all that was wrong
- hope for prosperity and peace
- empire lasted 1500 years
- spanning 4200 miles

➤ **Don’t dismiss small beginnings.**

*Matthew 13:31-32*

*...“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed...Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree...”*

On a little piece of ground alongside a river in Philippi, the flag of the Gospel of Jesus is raised in the heart of a businesswoman, establishing a beachhead for the Kingdom of God that would eventually penetrate the towering walls of Rome.

You never know the ripple effect of a small act of obedience.

➤ **Jesus finishes what He starts.**

*Philippians 1:3-5*

*3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*



### **Phase 1 – The Essentials:** the struggle to get our lives together

- Who am I? What do I stand for?
- managing your “kingdom” (your time, your money, your own space...etc.)
- What career path will I pursue?
- relationships, marriage? singleness?

### **Phase 2 – The Maturing:** the struggle to give our lives away

- How can I give my life away more purely and generously?
- raising children, building a family
- growing in your work/career, serving the community around you

“When one reaches the highest degree of human maturity, one has only one question left: How can I be helpful?” – Teresa of Avila

### **Phase 3 – The Ending:** the struggle to give our deaths away

- How are we meant to live out our final years so that our death is a gift to others?
- How can I live now so that when I die, my death is an optimal blessing to my family, my friends, the church, and the world?
- What is our value to others once our practical usefulness is gone? It's character.

“There is such a thing as a good death. We are responsible for the way we die. We have to choose between clinging to life in such a way that death becomes nothing but a failure, or letting go of life in freedom so that we can be given to others as a source of hope.”

– Henri Nouwen

### ➤ **A prayer to guide your steps.**

*Philippians 1:9-11*

*9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.*

Crucifying the self-life and yielding to the life of God in you.

"My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me...and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you." – Thomas Merton

## **NEXT STEPS**

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- WOMEN'S DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY | AUGUST 11 - SEPTEMBER 18 | 7 PM TUESDAYS, 10 AM FRIDAYS
- MEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY | AUGUST 13 - SEPTEMBER 19 | 7 PM THURSDAYS, 7 AM SATURDAYS
- SUMMER BASH AND BAPTISM SUNDAY | SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
- LOCK IN (MS) | SEPTEMBER 11-12 | 8PM-8AM | EAGLE CHURCH
- VOLUNTEER TRAINING | EAGLE KIDS | SEPTEMBER 13 | 11:30 AM
- LUNCH AND LEARN | EAGLE MISSIONS | SEPTEMBER 20 | 11:30 AM

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