

**God's started... so he'll finish (Philippians 1:1-8)**

**Introduction (v1-2)**

- What is really important?
- Where should we be able to find this?
- What is the tone of Paul's letter to the Philippians?
- What sort of place was Philippi?
- When did Paul et al plant the church there?
- When is Paul (probably) writing?
- What are some of the reasons he is writing?

**i Thanking God for his people's partnership (v3-5, 7-8)**

- What is true of v3-8?
- What does Paul do in v3?
- What does he do in v4?
- For what reason does he thank God joyfully (v5)?
- What is the meaning of the Greek word κοινωνία (koinonia)?
- How do we normally think of fellowship?
- What does the κοινωνία of Paul and the Philippians centre on?
- What has Jesus done as well as drawing them to himself?

- How do v7-8 say the same thing?
- What is the first lesson we can learn from this?
- What causes you maximum excitement?
- Why does Paul's example here challenge us?
- What might you do if you feel a bit cold to the gospel just now?
- What is the second lesson we can learn from this?
- How might you promote κοινωνία in these unusual days?

## ii Thanking God for his work in his people (v6)

- What doctrine does v6 summarise?
- Who started the work in the Philippians?
- So what will he do?
- What does this teach about our salvation?
- How do God's attributes reassure us here?
- What gives us the greatest confidence that we will be preserved to the end?
- When did you last stop and rejoice over this?
- Have you ever yielded your life to the one who finishes what he starts?

## Conclusion

- What does Paul do next?