

## **Complete Joy**

### Week 2 – Abounding Love

**Transition:** In last week's text, Paul gave thanks for the Philippian believers in his prayer time, while he was imprisoned. He was filled with joy because of the partnership they shared in the gospel and was confident that God would complete the good work he started in them.

**Check Point:** Would anyone like to share something they worked on from last week's discussion?

**Context:** In this week's text, Paul continues in prayer, pouring out his heart to God on behalf of this church he held dear to his heart. He asks God to increase their love with knowledge and discernment.

#### **Opening Questions:**

- Think of a time when you went against your better judgment. Share with the group and what you learned from the experience.
- Can you think of someone who was always others focused even through hardship. Describe them to the group and the impact they had on you.

**Scripture/Storying:** Philippians 1:9-11

#### **Discipleship Questions:**

- What is the Holy Spirit teaching you through this story? How does it impact the way you think and live?
- While in prison, Paul focused on praying for others. How does this challenge you personally? How can focusing on others through prayer during personal hardship benefit you directly?
- What challenges you most when it comes to prayer? When is prayer easiest for you? When is it hardest?
- Paul prays for the Philippian's love to abound more and more. How might praying Paul's prayer in this text for each other impact your small group? How might it impact Providence church?
- Even though the Philippians excelled in love, there was still room for growth. What areas in your life do you feel need the most growth and how can your small group pray for you regarding those areas?
- Paul prays that their love would be accompanied by knowledge and discernment. Why is it important that love be guided by these two things? How can a lack of knowledge and discernment hinder love?
- In what ways can knowledge and discernment aid you in leading a life of sincerity and purity? Where in your current season of life do you feel you need the most discernment?

#### **Prayer time:** - Redeem All Ministries

- Pray for authentic disciples to flourish throughout their churches.
- Pray for more committed volunteers and leaders to facilitate Sunday school with the children's ministry on Sundays. May the Lord continue to provide growth both in numbers and in faith.
- Pray for their newest church plant at Arda.