

-One Church-

A LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, & GOD IS GLORIFIED.



4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 4:10-23? What is one life transforming take-away?

5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church
Week 10 — Philippians 4:10-23

One Church — One Account

Philippians 4:10-23 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 4:10-23. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Account — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do see that theme in this passage? What are you learning in this season of your life about generous giving?

RbC One Church Small Group Study Guide

<u>Week</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Theme</u>
Week One	Phil 1:1-11	One Church—One Partnership
Week Two	Phil 1:12-26	One Church—One Faith
Week Three	Phil 1:27-20	One Church—One Gospel
Week Four	Phil 2:1-11	One Church—One Joy
Week Five	Phil 2:12-18	One Church—One Offering
Week Six	Phil 2:19-30	One Church—One Interest
Week Seven	Phil 3:1-14	One Church—One Gain
Week Eight	Phil 3:15-21	One Church—One Citizenship
Week Nine	Phil 4:1-7	One Church—One Peace
Week Ten	Phil 4:8-23	One Church—One Account

One Church

Philippians

"One Church" is the big idea we will follow through the book of Philippians this fall at Rockbridge Church. Where there is unity in the church . . . Jesus is made known, people take notice, and God is glorified.

- RbC is One Church made up of Gospel-transformed people

Philippians 1:27

"Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."

- RbC is One Church brought together in authentic community

Philippians 2:1-2

"Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose."

- RbC is One Church sent out with kingdom purpose

4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 4:1-9? What is one life transforming take-a-way?

5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church

Week 9 — Philippians 4:1-9

One Church — One Peace

Philippians 4:1-9 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 4:1-9. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Peace — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do you see that theme in this passage? What is peace? Why do you think real peace is only and always an outcome of the gospel?

Philippians 1:18

*"What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth,
Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice."*

Oneness in the church is a big deal. Jesus prayed for us — that we would be one, so that people would believe that He is the Savior of the world. That's a big deal!

The gospel is the message of salvation. The gospel creates oneness in the church. And then our oneness adorns the gospel. Our oneness makes the gospel fragrant and attractive to people. People are drawn to the oneness we have with God, and with one another, because they too were created in the image of God for that same oneness. It's a deep longing of the human heart. We were made for oneness.

The oneness described in the book of Philippians does not exist apart from Jesus. Apart from Jesus, among people in the world there can be togetherness, cooperation, teamwork, harmony — things like that. But oneness is different. As we'll see in Philippians, it's a gift from God. It comes to us in the gospel. It's a real miracle. It's part of the great adventure we are made for.

Where there is unity in the church . . . Jesus is made known, people take notice, and God is glorified.

Philippians

Helpful Background to Philippians

What was Philippi like?

- The city's original name was Crenides — “the little fountains”
- In 356 B.C. Philip II of Macedonia seized, enlarged and fortified the city, and renamed it Philippi (“pertaining to Philip”) in, you guessed it, his own honor
- Philippi was an inland city on the famous Roman highway; it was an important for both commerce and culture
- The Romans conquered Philippi in 168 B.C. and made it a Roman colony
- By the time of Paul's journeys on mission to Philippi, the people had become very proud of their Roman citizenship
- Today Philippi is in ruins

4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 3:15-21? What is one life transforming take-a-way?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church — One Citizenship

Philippians 3:15-21 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 3:15-21. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Citizenship — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do you see that theme in this passage? What might change in your attitudes and actions if you really lived as if heaven, and not earth, were your true home?

How did the Church in Philippi begin? What was it like?

- The church was planted as a direct result of Paul and his companions' (Luke and Silas) sharing the gospel in Philippi, having been sent there by a heavenly vision (Acts 16:6-10)
- A number of people heard and responded to the gospel. As the gospel's influence began to impact the commerce and culture of Philippi, Paul and Silas were forced to leave, but Luke stayed to nurture the young church (for a more complete picture, read Acts 16)
- Paul returned to Philippi about 5 years later for a short visit
- Paul was eventually placed in house arrest in Rome (Acts 28), and around 62-63 A.D. he wrote the letter (that we know as the book of Philippians) to the church
- A church leader in Philippi, Epaphroditus, had taken a substantial financial gift from the church to Paul in Rome, and then returned with Paul's letter
- The church would have been about 10 years old when they received Paul's letter
- Two characteristics stand out about the church: they were predominantly a Gentile church, and they were an incredibly generous church

One Church

Week 1 — Philippians 1:1-11

One Church — One Partnership

Philippians 1:1-11 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 1:1-11. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Partnership — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do see that theme in this passage? In what ways does RbC, and do you, partner with others for the sake of the gospel?
4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 3:1-14? What is one life transforming take-a-way?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church

Week 7 — Philippians 3:1-14

One Church — One Gain

Philippians 3:1-14 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 3:1-14. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Gain — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do see that theme in this passage? What did you, and do you, have to lose to gain Christ and Christlikeness?
4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 1:1-11? What is one life transforming take-a-way?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church

Week 2 — Philippians 1:12-26

One Church — One Faith

Philippians 1:12-26 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 1:12-26. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Faith — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do you see that theme in this passage? What does it mean to you?
4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 2:19-30? What is one life transforming take-a-way?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church

Week 6 — Philippians 2:19-30

One Church — One Interest

Philippians 2:19-30 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 2:19-30. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Interest — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do you see that theme in this passage? What changes happen in us when what interests Jesus becomes what interests us?
4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 1:12-26? What is one life transforming take-a-way?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church

Week 3 — Philippians 1:27-30

One Church — One Gospel

Philippians 1:27-30 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 1:27-30. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Gospel — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do you see that theme in this passage? What is the gospel, and what does it mean to you?
4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 2:12-18? What is one life transforming take-a-way?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church

Week 5 — Philippians 2:12-18

One Church — One Offering

Philippians 2:12-18 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 2:12-18. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Offering — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do you see that theme in this passage? What is the "offering" (verse 17) Paul talks about in this section? In what ways are you pouring out your life for sake of others knowing and growing in Christ?
4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 1:27-30? What is one life transforming take-a-way?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.

One Church

Week 4 — Philippians 2:1-11

One Church — One Joy

Philippians 2:1-11 Discussion Questions

1. Really read Philippians 2:1-11. What do you learn and see? What stands out most to you?
2. Philippians is full of Jesus. His names or designations — Jesus, Christ, Lord, Savior, along with the personal pronouns (He, Him, Himself) — are used over 90 times in Philippians. What does this section teach you about Jesus — Who He is and what He means to the church and to you?
3. One Joy — that's the particular emphasis in this section. How do you see that theme in this passage? What is joy, and why do you think it is an outcome of the gospel?
4. In what ways are you responding to what you see and learn in Philippians 2:1-11? What is one life transforming take-a-way?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's message that was helpful or compelling or encouraging to you?

Prayer Requests

WHERE THERE IS UNITY IN THE CHURCH...
JESUS IS MADE KNOWN, PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE, AND GOD IS GLORIFIED.