

Sermon: Global Partnership for Gospel Advancement;
Delivered by: Todd Kelly, global ministries director,
Leadership Resources International; *Date: March 5, 2017*

Bible text Explored: Philippians 1:1-12

¹Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,
To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and
deacons:

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine
for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel
from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work
in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel
this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with
me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the
gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ
Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with
knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so
be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness
that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to
advance the gospel . . . [ESV]

Review and application:

1. What (vv.3-5) brings Paul satisfaction every time he prays for the Jesus followers in Philippi?
2. Around what common cause (v.7b) is this partnership centered?
Does this common cause take precedence for us over personal pursuits?
3. Why (vv.6-7a) is Paul confident that this partnership with God and each other will be sustained in the Philippi church community? (See also *Phil. 1:27-28a*.)
4. Why is confidence in the Spirit's ability to bring his "good work" to completion essential in a multiplication-model ministry such as Todd Kelly represents?
5. Todd said that partnerships will wane if they fail to draw on God's power and cease being fueled by love for each other. What (vv.9-11) is Paul's prayer for the Philippian church's mutual love as to its . . .
. . . Amount?
. . . Quality?
6. What does Paul's example tell us about . . .
. . . Patience with others' pace in maturing? (See *Phil. 3:14-15*.)
. . . Tactful settling of disputes? (See *Phil. 4:2-3a*.)
7. How (v. 12) had the gospel been advanced from Paul's side?
(See *Phil. 1:13-14*.)

How had it been advanced from the Philippians' side?
(See *Phil 1:19 and 4:18b*.)

How are you helping advance the gospel . . .
. . . In your community?
. . . In your world?