## Bethel Baptist Church April 17, 2016

## Knowing Christ and making Him known ~ Through the Gospel perspective of a prisoner.

Philippians 1:3–11 [Word Version]

Theme: Christology

**Proposition:** We should live life from the perspective of a prisoner.

- I. The affirmations of a joy-filled heart prayer and praise.
  - A. Participation in the Gospel.
  - B. Preservation of God.
- II. The affections of a joy-filled heart. (1:7-8)
  - A. The belief of biblical affection.
  - B. The Basis for biblical affection.
- III. The assertions of a joy-filled heart (1:9-11)
  - A. The description of faith LOVE.
  - B. The development of faith.
    - 1. Discernment.
    - 2. Discipline.
  - C. The destination of faith.

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. What did you hear?
- 2. How does viewing salvation as "participation in the Gospel" impact our view of others believers?
- 3. What is the "work" that has begun in us?

How does He "perform" that work until the day of Jesus Christ?

4. What does "the preserving work of God" look like in a believer's life?

What are some ways that God "preserves us?"

- 5. Can you share a time when you became aware of a way that God "preserved" you spiritually?
- 6. How important are right relationships?

Is there a spiritual responsibility to having right relationships? How would you explain that?

Are these relationships different than or in addition to normal friendships?

7. What does Paul mean when talks about "holding these believers in his heart?"

How significant is it that they experienced grace together and that they suffered together?

8. Paul captured the essence of our relationship with God as "love." What did he mean by this?

How does love abound with knowledge?

- 9. How is living with discernment a vital component of a growing faith?
- 10. How is living with discipline a vital component of a growing faith?

How do developing discernment and discipline result in a life that brings glory to God?