

#FIGHTFORIT

A STUDY IN PHILIPPIANS

Week 1 | #fightforit | April 3

Key Focus: #fightforit in community.

Opening Up:

- Do you have a tight nit family? Why, or why not?
- Who in your family holds it together? How do they do that? Is there someone in your family that pulls it apart? Without naming them, speak generally about how this person does that?
- What is your favorite part of the family experience? What do you miss about family when you are apart?
- How can church be more like a tight nit family? What keeps church from feeling like family? How can people pull it together? How can people pull it apart?

Reference: Philippians 1:1-10

Discuss:

1. It was said that JOY is loving: Jesus, Others, Yourself. How might that be true? What would be true if peopled lived this way? (Think about work, family, friends, etc.)
2. The church of Philippi started with Lydia (a wealthy Asian lady), a fortune teller (a Greek slave girl), a jailer (a middle class Roman). What does the diversity of this crowd teach you about the gospel? How do you think the combination of diversity and a loving community affected the culture of the church?
3. Read the conversion experience of the jailer in Acts 16:25-34. How is this similar or different from your own conversation experience?
4. In Acts 16:6-10 Paul has some doors shut by the Holy Spirit and a clear vision to plant a church in Macedonia and eventually Philippi. Do you ever feel led by God this way? How does God “shut doors?” How do you know it is God?
5. Do you have confidence that God is writing your life story? What does it look like to give God the pen? What is difficult about letting God write your story?
6. Have you noticed there are seasons when you are more connected to God? What is different about those seasons?
7. In Philippians 1:5 Paul is thankful for their financial partnership. Why is funding the mission of God important? What is difficult about being generous to the mission of God at work in the church?
8. In Philippians 1:8 Paul says he loves the church with the “affection” or bowels of Christ. In other words, he really feels it. Have you ever really felt love for the church? Have you ever really felt loved by others in the church? What must be true of the church in order for feelings of intense love to be present?
9. How are you going to better #fightforit in community?
10. Pray.