

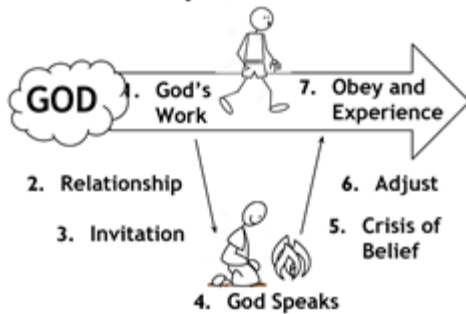
# Join Jesus as He Continues to Build His Church!

Philippians 1:7-8  
by Pastor Dan Dickerson

## Introduction

- It is amazing to see the things that can be stopped in our world!
- It is a comfort to think on the things that cannot be stopped – Matthew 24:35; 16:18
- It has been said that the wisdom of the ages is to find out what direction God is going and then go with God – 1 John 2:17

### *7 Realities of EXPERIENCING GOD*



**Paul joined God and Christ in His unstoppable work and so can we by...**

### **1. Continuing Partnership in the Gospel** – Philippians 1:7-8

- Loving one another though we are apart – verse 7
- Partnering and sharing in grace-based ministry though we are apart – verse 7
- Expressing the love of Jesus to one another though we are apart – verse 8

### **2. Continuing Prayers for Spiritual Growth** – Philippians 1:9-11

- Praying for their love to abound – verse 9
- Praying for their knowledge to grow more and more – verse 9
- Praying for their discernment to grow more and more – verse 9
- Praying for their approval of things that are excellent – verse 10
- Praying for their sincerity without offense – verse 10
- Praying for their fullness with fruits of righteousness – verse 11

### **3. Continuing Proclamation of the Gospel** – Philippians 1:12-18

- Difficult things turn out for the advancement of the Gospel – verse 12
- Paul's chains for Christ became known throughout the whole Palace Guard – verse 13
- Paul's chains encouraged many believers to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly – verse 14
- Christ was proclaimed from bad and good motives, yet Paul rejoices – verses 15-18

## Application

- Christ's continuance encourages, enables and empowers ours – forward by faith  
Philippians 1:6; Matthew 16:18; 24:35; 1 John 2:17
- Begin an eternal relationship with God by receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior – John 1:12; Romans 10:9-13
- Commit as Paul did even in difficult times so as to find joy by the continuing partnership in the gospel, prayer for spiritual growth, and proclamation of the gospel!
- **Join Jesus as He continues to build His Church!**

## Discussion

- When did you first repent of sin and receive Jesus Christ by faith as Lord and Savior? Are you growing in your faith walk with Him?
- Have you been intending to see Christian living as something you do for God in your own power and strength? Where does that mindset take you? How could this view of the Christian life change things for the better - daily seeing God at work, joining a daily love relationship, accepting an invitation to humbly listen to God, choosing to believe God, adjusting your life to His will, and then obeying and experiencing God?
- Where have you been discouraged or tempted to quit instead of continuing – partnership in the gospel, prayers for spiritual growth, the proclamation of the gospel? How could these difficult days be turned into opportunities to join God in His work in you and through you?
- What are specific ways you would desire to continue on like Paul?
  - ☐ In partnership with the gospel? Giving, writing, emailing, phoning, encouraging, serving to show, sharing, and expressing love, or....?
  - ☐ In prayer for spiritual growth? For yourself, for others, for growth in love, knowledge, discernment, approval of things that are excellent, for sincerity without offense, for fullness with the fruits of righteousness, or...?
  - ☐ In the proclamation of the gospel? What are the ways the coronavirus could turn out for the good in a greater spread of the gospel? Are you becoming bolder to share your faith (why or why not)? Are you encouraging others to be bolder in sharing their faith? How could you do this?
- Will you commit to joining Jesus as He continues to build His Church? How can the way you live now in difficult days encourage others?