



7. The Fellowship of the King Philippians 1:3-8

- In a fragmented world, the church is to be God's model community

1. Paul's attitude to God's people

a) Thankfulness to God for the Philippians v3

- Thankful because of their partnership in God's work (v5)
 - 'partnership' - they rolled up their sleeves and worked alongside Paul in advancing the gospel
- Thankful because of God's work in them (v6)
 - Paul was delighted to see their growth and progress
 - Delighted because God is changing and guarding them

b) Prayer to God for the Philippians v4

- Who and what we pray for reveals what matters to us
- Paul is in prison, yet he is pre-occupied with others
- Paul prays regularly, and persistently for these Christians (v4)
- Paul prays specifically for their spiritual welfare (v9-11)

c) Love for the Philippians v7-8

- Love for fellow Christians is evidence of salvation (1 John 3:14)
- We are to care deeply about those whom Christ cares deeply for
- Their concerns, welfare and progress should concern us
- Such love is to find ways of expressing itself

2. Paul's attitude is modelled on Christ's attitude

a) Christ is thankful to the Father for all his people

- John 17:2, Ps 2:8: believers are a gift to the Son from the Father
- Hebrews 2:11,13, Psalm 16:3 refer to his delight in us
- Your Saviour thanks/praises his Father for you

b) Christ prays to the Father for all his people

- If we are believers then we have Christ interceding for us
- John 17:20-26, Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25

c) Christ delights in and loves all his people

- "with the affection of Christ Jesus" v8
- The Christian is brought into a staggering relationship
- "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you" – John 15:9

3. What is our attitude?

- God is building a new community – will we play our role in it?
- Will we delight in fellow Christians as those in whom God is working?
- Will we pray regularly and specifically?
- Will we demonstrate selfless love and concern to them?

Milford RPC

www.milfordrpc.org

Sabbath 13th September 09

Notices

Sabb	Evening service in Milford	8pm
Tues	Presbytery meets in Bready	8pm
Wed	Bible Study @ Esther's Pick up a set of questions in the porch	8pm

We're going to have the Bible Study in people's homes again for a while. Please speak to Mark if you would like to offer your home for around a month.

We welcome Jonny McCollum to Milford on his Short-term service year with us. He'll be here for the next year, alternating between Milford and Letterkenny on Sundays. Please take every opportunity to get to know him and make him feel at home in Donegal.

Presbytery News

Presbytery met on Wednesday evening. Items covered included:

- Presbytery made out a call to Mr John George to come and work in Enniskillen fellowship alongside Robert Robb.
- Robert Robb reported that Enniskillen have about 24 people out on a Sabbath morning
- Derry City outreach committee reported that they are looking for families to be part of a new congregation/outreach in Derry. Also there is going to be a leaflet distribution in October Sat 17th, and a series of meetings the following week.
- France Update meeting scheduled for the Mon 26th October in Bready at 8pm.

Other Church News

- Derek Petrie has accepted a call to the Larne congregation
- John Coates has accepted a call to the Kellswater congregation

Sabbath 20th - Philippians 1:12ff

Opening Psalm: 69:7-12

Minister: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@milfordrpc.org

Interim Elders: Fergus Marshall: 048 7139 8351 Samuel Buchanan: 048 7134 2685