

Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:15 AM In the Chapel

Beginning January 23

Having concluded our study of Ephesians, I write to invite you to join me in a serious study of Paul's Letter to the Philippian Church which promises to be a thoughtful, grown-up exploration of God's intention for his people to live a life of joy and peace.

Because of the turmoil and angst of the last several years, I was encouraged by Jim Webb, Larry Shores and Tracee Hackel to lead my next adult study on this particular letter.

Why? Because Philippians exudes a joyful spirit and warm affection. As a 'thank you' note to his friends for their generosity, he wraps them up in his warm embrace. Yet, as he affirms his friends, he also responds to their problems – rivalry and gossip in the church separate leaders; hostility and skepticism in the world challenge their faith in Christ; and the spirituality of impressive religious teachers promote a bogus formula for health and wealth that is attracting recent converts.

Paul's response to these problems sounds strangely applicable to our present situation.

Unlike most of my recent classes, however, I do not intend to lecture. Participants will be asked to purchase a copy of Gordon Fee's commentary on Philippians published by InterVarsity Press. The book retails for \$20.00, but the Christian Education Committee will sell the books for \$10. They will be available for purchase on January 23. Participants will read assigned pages before each class and be prepared to discuss the material.

Come join us as we explore the Scriptures with our adult minds.

Bob Dooling, Emeritus Pastor