“Pursuing Relationships That Matter”

Philippians 1:1-8 (NIV)

 1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God’s holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

 2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

 3 I thank my God every time I remember you.

 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy

 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,

 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

 7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me.

 8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

* The Apostle Paul refused to be unhappy

**Philippians 4:11-13 (NLT)**

 11 Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have.

 12 I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little.

 13 For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

 Paul gave thanks to God for his present relationship with the Philippians

 **Philippians 1:3(NIV)**

“Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.”

Two Important Facts about happiness

* **1) Happiness is something you create**

**Psalms 32:11 (New Century Version)**

 Good people, rejoice and be happy in the Lord. Sing all you whose hearts are right.

* **2)** **Happiness is not a goal**.

**Philippians 1:6-7 (NIV)**

 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

 7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me.

Happiness comes from:

A) Right thinking

B) Right living

C) Right behavior

**Psalms 144:15 (NKJV)**

 “Happy are the people who are in such a state; Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!

 This is why Paul was grateful for the partnership the people of Philippi had with him

**Philippians 1:4-5 (NIV)**

 “4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,”