

## Lesson Notes: Philippians 1:7-8 (NIV based)

READ: Philippians 1:7-8, with vv.3-6 for context

### v.7

What is meant by "all of you share in God's grace with me"?

- - The Philippian saints (true believers) are co-heirs in Christ with Paul.
- - Thereby, they are spiritual brothers and sisters to Paul.
- - By God's grace, God will bless the Philippian saints for their faithful financial support of Paul.

What "way" does Paul feel about all of the Philippian saints?

- - a regard of joy; (v.4)
- - a regard of direct partnership; (v.5)
- - a regard of consistent commitment; (v.5)
- - a regard of approval and blessing from God; (v.6)
- - a regard of holding a special place in his heart; (v.7)
- - a regard of affection. (v.8)

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### v.8

Why is Paul "longing" for all of the Philippian saints? Longing for what?

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### vv.1-8

From the first 8 verses in Philippians chapter 1, what can we conclude are Paul's main ministry activities?

- - a servant of Christ Jesus; (v.1)
- - an encourager / teacher of churches, saints, leadership; (v.1)
- - a prayer intercessor; (v.4)
- - spreading, defending, confirming, suffering for the gospel; (vv.5-7)
- - a teacher of Bible doctrine; (v.6)
- - a recruiter of workers for God's Kingdom building; (v.7)
- - a minister to groups as well as individuals; (v.8)
- - (implied) to plant churches;
- - (implied) to hold the position of 'apostle', being higher in rank than "overseers" and "deacons". (v.2; cf. Colossians 1:1)

Has God called any of us to minister or serve in any of these areas?

- Are we actively involved and pursuing them?
- Which ones?
- How many of these should all believers be involved in?

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MAIN POINT: What would you say is the main point in these verses?

IMPORTANT SUB-POINTS: What are some other important points God is making here in these verses?

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APPLICATIONS: What applications can you think of for how we should respond to the concepts in these verses?

PERSONALIZED APPLICATIONS: From these verses, what do you think God wants you to learn, or know, or remember, or put into effect in your life? How are you going to do that?

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Works Cited:

Bible. "The Holy Bible: New International Version." *The Bible Library CD-ROM*. Oklahoma City, OK: Ellis Enterprises, 1988.

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