



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, October 17, 2021 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

“Struggling Well: In Community”

Philippians 1:1-11

1. Some key words that help us understand how to struggle well in community (Philippians 1:1-2)
2. The means of prayer as a way to struggling well in community (Philippians 1:3-6)
3. Struggling well in community means communicating our love. (Philippians 1:7-8)

4. Struggling well in community means a God-centered life together.
(Philippians 1:9-11)

Table Talk

- 1) What are some ways that you see people struggling not so well these days? What key words does Paul use in verses 1-2 that bring help to struggling well? Of these, which ones are most meaningful to you at the moment? Which ones have you not considered all that much?
- 2) Why is prayer with others a means to struggling well? How does thanksgiving lead to joy in the life of the believer? Why can we pray confidently in the midst of our struggles? How does our understanding of how everything will end help us to struggle well right now? (vv. 3-6)
- 3) How do you have your church community “in your heart”? What does it mean to share in the fellowship of grace? What were the circumstances that Paul identifies where the fellowship of grace was particularly evident? How can we imitate that in our own crises? What are some ways that others in the body of Christ have supported you in undeserved ways? (vv. 7-8)
- 4) What does it mean to live a God-centered life? How can a God-centered life lead to struggling well? Why might our love for God increasing both in knowledge and experience help us to struggle well? Tell about a time when you struggled between what is good and what is best. How might a God-centered life sort those priorities? (vv. 9-10)
- 5) In what ways can this life prepare us to be “pure and blameless for the day of Christ”? Why is it important to be continually growing in Christ, if we are to struggle well? How does Paul compare the struggles of life to a tree in verse 11? Where does our righteousness come from, even if we are struggling well? What is the end goal of it all as described at the end of verse 11? How does this end goal relate to the focus of our church, “seeking to be worshipers, maturing in Christ”? (vv. 10-11)