

Better Together

Philippians 1:3-11

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Take-Home Truth: Our partnership in the gospel is **WORTH PROTECTING**.

WE PROTECT OUR PARTNERSHIP . . .

Example #1: . . . WHEN WE STAY FOCUSED ON THE MISSION.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. Philippians 1:3-5 (English Standard Version)

Example #2: . . . WHEN WE EXPRESS FAITH IN AND AFFECTION FOR OUR PARTNERS.

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6-8 (ESV)

Yes, dear friends, we are already God's children, and we can't even imagine what we will be like when Christ returns. But we do know that when he comes we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. 1 John 3:2 (New Living Translation)

Example #3: . . . WHEN WE PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS.

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. Philippians 1:9-11 (ESV)

Wherever your treasure is, there your heart and thoughts will also be. Matthew 6:21 (NLT)

Application:

1. What are you doing to promote, protect and strengthen our partnership in the gospel here at Lighthouse?
 - Actively staying on mission, doing your part to serve?
 - Encouraging your partners with your prayers, words of encouragement and thanks?
 - Patiently loving those who are in process?

2. How will you strengthen our partnership here at Lighthouse in the coming weeks and months?
 - A new level of involvement and commitment?
 - Consistently praying for someone involved in ministry?
 - Giving verbal thanks to those who serve and advance the gospel?