

Philippians 1:1-11

God Working In and Amongst His Church

The Special Presence of God

Pastoral Prayer

Transcendent and Immanent God, the Father who has elected us, the Son who has purchased us, the Holy Spirit who works within us, your triune nature and works are very good. You have brought us near again this morning to allow us the privilege of uplifting and beholding your Son, to drink deeply from the wells of grace He purchased. We confess that our hearts often fail to apprehend anything of His majesty. We are easily distracted with the trinkets of the world instead of the eternal, radiant glory, which belongs to You alone. We believe those things which are more real to our senses than to overflow of your invisible presence. Please now grant us faith to see You. Open our hearts to know the reality of Your special presence amongst your people that we might rejoice in Your name, find enduring power for Your works, and hope to continue the fight for Your glory lived out amongst us. We ask these things in the name of the Redeemer who bought these privileges for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Outline

1. The Universal Church in the Local Body (v.1-2)
2. The Gospel as the Churches Foundation (v.3-5,11)
3. Some Implications of the Gospel Foundation (v.5-6,9-11)
4. The Fruit of the Gospel Foundation (v.7-8)

Central Textual Truth

God created the local body to have a Gospel foundation, to work out Gospel imperatives, and to lead to Gospel joy.

Central Sermon Aim

I desire for SGBC to greater love and work out the Gospel through their relationships with one another on a daily basis.