

Deane Church + Lostock Church w/b Sunday 22nd April 2018

Read Philippians 1:1-11

1. What do we learn about how Paul felt about the Philippian Christians? Why does he feel like this about them?
2. What are Paul and the Philippian Christians partners in? (You might also like to read Philippians 4:10-19)

'partnership in the gospel' (v5) is a translation of the Greek word **koinonia**. It is a two-way, relational thing. A genuine partnership. NB the Good News Bible translates this *'the way in which you have helped me in the work of the gospel'* which is not hugely helpful since it suggests that the partnership is just one-way. *Koinonia* is a big and recurring theme in Philippians so we may as well get it right! *Koinonia* is more than 'fellowship' since it is active and is about working together in mission, evangelism, etc.

3. What is the basis of their partnership?
4. What are some ways in which we could deepen our *koinonia*
 - (a) within the Lostock Church family?
 - (b) between the four churches of the LAMB Mission Partnership?
5. What strikes you about Paul's prayer for the Philippians (vv 9-11)? Which bit of Paul's prayer would you most like to see answered in your life right now?