

God Won't Give Up | Advancing Joy...Again  
Philippians 1:1-11

(v.6) “He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it till the day of Christ’s return.”

THE COMMUNITY GOD WON'T GIVE UP ON

(v.1)“To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi,  
including the overseers and deacons.”

“To live by grace means to acknowledge my whole life story, the light side and the dark. In admitting my shadow side I learn who I am and what God's grace means. As Thomas Merton put it, "A saint is not someone who is good but who experiences the goodness of God."

—Brennan Manning

THE QUALITY THEY POSESS

Philippians 1:3-5, 7

I give thanks to my God for every remembrance of you,  
4 always praying with joy for all of you in my every prayer,  
5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first  
day until now...7 It is right for me to think this way about  
all of you, because I have you in my heart, and you are all  
partners with me in grace, both in my imprisonment and  
in the defense and establishment of the gospel.

## Isaiah 40

“Comfort, comfort My people,” says your God. 2 “Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and announce to her that her time of forced labor is over, her iniquity has been pardoned, and she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”



Believing the gospel for our new identity is not limited to salvation it also leads to our transformation and our participation.

THE QUESTIONS WE MUST ALL GOTTA FACE

(v.1) Am I trusting Jesus for my new identity by repenting and believing in the good news?

public beliefs, private beliefs and core beliefs

Our CORE beliefs often reveal themselves when we're bad, when life goes bad, or when others do bad things

“Lo, I am with you always, even till the end of the age.”

—Jesus

Is Gratitude Becoming A Habit? (v.3)

Is the Way of Jesus Becoming the Mark of Maturity? (v. 8-11)



## Philippians 1:8-11 (MSG)

So this is my prayer: that your love will flourish and that you will not only love much but well. Learn to love appropriately. You need to use your head and test your feelings so that your love is sincere and intelligent, not sentimental gush. Live a lover's life, circumspect and exemplary, a life Jesus will be proud of: bountiful in fruits from the soul, making Jesus Christ attractive to all, getting everyone involved in the glory and praise of God.

ADVANCING JOY...AGAIN

## Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master,  
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to  
console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love;  
For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life...  
-Amen