

## Small Group Discussion Questions

### *Spirit and Truth: Rediscovering Christian Worship*

*These questions are designed to invite group reflection on today's Bible passage and life application of the themes introduced in today's sermon.*

#### **Week 8: *This is My Prayer***

##### Philippians 1:3-11

1. What are the two main types of prayer identified and modeled in the New Testament?
2. What mistaken assumption do we make about the purpose of prayer? What two errors might that assumption lead to? Have you found yourself thinking that way about prayer (or heard others express these thoughts about prayer)? How does Jesus address these two errors?
3. What is the main purpose of personal prayer? What is a result of personal prayer? What is our best Biblical model for personal prayer?
4. What is a main purpose of public, corporate prayer? What essential part of Christian identity does public prayer remind us of? What is one of the biggest benefits of the Prayer of God's People?
5. The Apostle Paul provides an excellent model for the Prayer of God's People in the book of Philippians. What are Paul's circumstances as he writes these words? What is the tone of Paul's letter, and what are some of his greatest concerns?
6. Paul prefaces his prayer with thanksgiving. For what two things does Paul give thanks?
7. What is the first priority of Paul's prayer for the church? What do we learn about love from Paul? How does Paul suggest Christian love grows?
8. In his second prayer priority, what does Paul pray that the church will be able to *do*? What does he pray that the church will *become*?
9. In his third prayer priority, what does Paul pray will *fill* the church? What two things are meant by "righteousness"?
10. What does Paul conclude is the ultimate, best result of all the Lord's work in and through the church?
11. What kind of people, living what kind of life, reflects *the best* of who God is and what God does? Is that the kind of person you desire to be? Can you think of members of your church, or congregations you know, who seem to reflect God's glory by the way they live and minister?

*Pray:* For God's hand of healing and grace at work in the lives of members of your church; for your congregation to grow in unity, love and Christlikeness; for God to be glorified in and through your congregation.