

**Week 1: Phil. 1:1-1a**  
Introduction

THE  
**REBEL'S**  
GUIDE to JOY

**Start by reading all of Philippians for an overview of the entire Book.**

**Context**

Paul pens the book the church of Philippi from prison in Rome. Despite his grim circumstances, we see that Paul find strength and joy in his faith in Jesus. Our goal throughout this series will be to peel our eyes off our circumstances and focus them on Jesus. Through which we endeavor to see our lives transformed by Paul's letter that we may start to live as slaves to Jesus and experience the joy that comes through service to Him.

Servants- literal translation of servants in this passage is slaves or bondservants.

**Saints**

Read Paul's introduction in verse 1.

In Paul's introduction he writes the letter to the **Saints** who are at Philippi.

Define Saint: (support your definition with scripture)

What does it mean to be a saint of Christ Jesus?

When you think about yourself, where do you naturally find you identity? (job, accomplishments, groups)

How would viewing yourself as a saint, a child of God, an heir of Jesus change your response to circumstances?

What resources has God provided for saints to a life of obedience and holiness?

**Slaves**

Paul calls himself and Timothy, **slaves** of Christ Jesus.

Define bondservant.

What does it mean to be free in Christ? (Rom 6:18, ! Cor 7:22)

What masters are you enslaved to today besides Jesus?

How does slavery to sin and idols affect your life?

How will you break the chains of bondage to sin in your life?

What does or would it look like to be a slave of Jesus in your life?

**Reflection and Prayer**

Reflect on the attributes of God and the elements of the Gospel you see in this passage.

How do your thoughts and actions testify to the truth you see in these Scriptures?

Pray that this scripture would transform your life and renew your mind.