

## Personal Application and Group Interaction:

Describe a family heirloom that has special meaning to you. Where is it and to whom do you speak of its importance to you?

What are some of your thoughts about the local church? How important is it today? Some say, with great conviction, "The local church is 'the hope of the world.'" How accurate is that statement? How do you think our local church measures up to that?

Paul said, "I thank my God every time I remember you" (1:3). What do you think was involved in those memories? What things come to your mind when it comes to the people in your church? What memories prompt you to give thanks for them?

The word "partnership" (v.5, NIV) is also translated "participation" (NASB) and "fellowship" (NKJV) from the Greek word "koinonia." It describes a people actively involved, side-by-side, in a work or cause. If you had 2 minutes to describe our fellowship to a neighbor, what would you say? How could we more effectively partner with each other in the work of the gospel? What kind of memories are we making in this gospel partnership?

Where do you think Paul came up with the confidence that God would bring His work to completion in that young church? How reasonable do you think it is that we could expect something similar? How does "completion" look in our situation? How does it engage and involve us?



# God's Good Work Among Us is Forever!

Philippians 1:1-6

Pastor John  
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Family heirlooms have their own special meaning to us. It's amazing the kind of things that survive the impulse to discard things that no longer work or are simply taking up space. Some of us cling to them as if they possess life in themselves as they remind us of days we shared with a loved one. Then reason grips us with the cold reality, "nothing is forever" [or, almost nothing].

Our theme for the next few months is that when God's people humble themselves, He does a great thing. You see, **God's good work among us is forever!**

The Apostle Paul spoke of this in his joyful letter to the Philippian church and this truth has been repeated in countless local churches ever since.

**His good work among us moves us to thank God!**

**His good work among us has "legs"!**

**His good work among us gives us great confidence...!**