

Welcome	When you send someone a 'thinking of you' card, what type do you tend to go for: a) humorous, b) touching, c) blank for your own words or d) something else?
Worship ideas	Choose songs/ hymns/ music that build up the body eg 28 As we are gathered, 54 Brother sister let me serve you, 921 Men of faith, &c.
Word (refs.↓)	<i>some suggestions for discussion here</i>
Phil. 1:3-8	What feelings does Paul have for the Philippians? How does he express them? When have you felt or do you ever feel this way about other Christians you have known? How have you expressed / do you express these feelings? Would you like to do better?
<i>Optional study</i> Acts 16:16-32	<i>(Questions on the background to the letter to the Philippians)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What sort of songs do you think Paul and Silas were singing in the jail (exuberant praise, quiet worship, prayerful songs, laments, etc.)? How do you think their reaction to their circumstances would have affected the jailer, his household, the other prisoners? (NB Paul was back in prison when he wrote <i>Philippians</i>, see 1:13) • How do you think the way <u>you</u> react to difficult circumstances affects those around you who aren't yet Christians?
Phil. 1:3-11	Paul lists a number of reasons for the joy he feels when he thinks of the church in Philippi. Does this summary cover it? (can you allocate a verse or 2 to each reason?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • partnership (theirs with him in the gospel) • prayer (theirs for him and his for them) • positive confidence in God's faithfulness
Phil. 1:6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God "began a good work in you". Is this true for your group/ for St Barnabas? When? Is he still doing it? • Do you view the promise that God will "carry it on to completion" more as an encouragement (to keep going) or as a challenge (to be 'worked on' some more)?
Phil. 1:9-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading between the lines of the prayer in vv.9-11, what concerns does Paul have for the Philippians? How does he express them? • The prayer of St Richard of Chichester ends with the prayer that I may "see you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly day by day" Can you identify these three aspects of Paul's prayer here? Do you find it easier to pray such a prayer for others and for us as a church, or just for yourself?
Witness	Pray – can you identify one or two individuals for whom you could pray vv.9-11? Could you send them a card to let them know you have been thinking of/ praying for them? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray for your mission link person(s) or project* or • discuss some other way you can express your "joy because of your partnership in the gospel" with them (e.g. letter/ card/ email/ phone call / gift/ visit(!) etc.) •
	<i>* Note to cell leaders: if you don't have one, do contact Francis about this, meanwhile pray for / think about how you could support one or more of our church mission links.</i>