

# Joy from Loving Relationships

Philippians 1:7-8

## Introduction: Paul's keys to joy

- Focusing on the good things God has done in people
- Losing ourselves in the spiritual well being of others by praying
- Serving Christ with others and experiencing fellowship
- Having confidence in the faithfulness of God to complete His work

### I. "... I have you in my heart..." v. 7a

### II. "... you all are partakers with me of grace." v. 7b

### III. "...I long for you all with the affection..." v. 8

#### A. Paul's description of his affection

1. Song of Solomon 5:4

2. I John 3:17

#### B. Paul's love for the church, the people of God

1. Even those who didn't reciprocate his love

a. I Corinthians 4:14

b. II Cor. 2:4, 6:11-13, 7:2-3, 11:22-28, 12:15

2. Even those he hadn't seen - Col. 2:1-2

C. Paul's special love for the Philippians - 4:1,  
2:25-26