



Community

in a Season of Social Isolation

The Apostle Paul would go around establishing communities of followers of Jesus, but after he left them, he had to find a way to stay connected to that community without being physically present with them. The way he did this was through writing them letters. Writing these letters was a way for Paul to connect with the communities he established even when he was in prison. In Philippians 1, we read of Paul's love for the community in Philippi, of how he remembers them, prays for them, and longs to be with them. For us right now, we are in a situation like Paul where we cannot be physically present with the communities we are connected to. But even though we are not physically present, there are ways we can still be connected and engage with each other. Let's reflect this week on how to do that, and who we can be in community with.

Passage to Reflect On: Philippians 1

Reflection on the Passage:

1. What are the emotions that come through Paul's writing in Philippians 1?
2. What do we learn about what Paul feels toward the community in Philippi?
3. How does Paul continue to engage with the community despite being physically distant from them?
4. What contributes to Paul being able to rejoice in the passage?

Personal Reflection Questions:

1. Who can we be in community with during this season of social distancing and being isolated from each other?
2. Who are the people in our lives that may be feeling alone and in need of community right now?
3. What is the best way that we should be reaching out to others? This will vary from person to person.
 - Video chats with close friends?
 - Text messages or emails with people you haven't talked to in a while?
 - Phone calls with grandparents?

Invitations to Respond:

1. Reach out to someone who may be feeling socially isolated right now, in whatever way would be best for that person.
2. Take time to pray for your loved ones, and consider sharing with them what God reveals to you in a time of prayer.
3. Reach out to us if you are interested in being a part of a Revive online small group. You can email us at afmcrevive@gmail.com