

**Partakers of Grace**  
**Part One: Sorting for Excellence**  
**Philippians 1:1-18**  
**July 13, 2025**

1. Even in its infancy, the church had already established a leadership structure (Philippians 1:1-2)
2. Church leaders, and the saints they lead, share a common heritage in Christ (Philippians 1:3-8)
  - We are partners in the gospel.
  - God will finish what he began in us.
  - We are partakers of God's grace.
3. We're called to bring praise and glory to God (Philippians 1:9-11)
  - This requires a foundation of love, knowledge and discernment.
  - We build on this foundation by sorting for excellence.
  - This produces growth in righteousness displayed in our behavior.
4. Even in the face of great opposition, we can find joy in the advance of the gospel (Philippians 1:12-18)