

(I) THE EXAMPLE OF PAUL IN MAKING REQUEST WITH JOY

*“Always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy” **Philippians 1:4***

1. As a personal practice (despite sufferings **Philippians 1:7**)
2. As a pastoral practice
3. As a consistent practice
4. As a powerful practice of faith

(II) THE BASES OF JOY IN PRAYER

1. Good Healthy Friendship

*“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you” **Philippians 1:3***

2. Godly fellowship with each other

a) Gospel centred fellowship

*“For your fellowship in the gospel...” **Philippians 1:5***

b) Continuing fellowship

*“...from the first day until now” **Philippians 1:5***

i) The fellowship with Lydia (**Acts 16:15**)

ii) The fellowship with the Philippian jailer. (**Acts 16:34**)

c) Co-partakers of the grace of God

*“...you all are partakers with me of grace.” **Philippians 1:7***

3. Great confidence in God’s good work in lives

*“Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.” **Philippians 1:6***

- a) It is God who begins this work
- b) It is God who would finish this work

(III) MAKING DEFINITE PRAYER REQUESTS

*“And this I pray...” **Philippians 1:9***

As Paul thought about the Philippian Church, he also make definite prayers request for them

1. Increasing in love (and joy)

*“...that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment”
Philippians 1:9*

2. Walking alright (that leads to joy)

*“That you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ” **Philippians 1:10***

3. Bearing much fruits (that our joy may be full)

*“Being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ...” **Philippians 1:11***

4. (Joy in) bringing glory to God.

*“...to the glory and praise of God.” **Philippians 1:11***

(IV) THE CHALLENGE TO MAKE REQUESTS WITH JOY

- 1. Do we know how to make request for others?**
- 2. Do we know how to have joy as we make request?**
- 3. Do we know how to pray for our own growth and the growth of others?**