



WHY DID GOD ESTABLISH THE CHURCH?

BIBLE STORY: All Together Now (Philippians 1–2)

BIBLE TRUTH: God designed us to live in community with grace, forgiveness, and humility.

BIBLE VERSE: For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose. *Philippians 2:13*

BONUS VERSE: So the people said to Joshua, “We will worship the LORD our God and obey him. *Joshua 24:24*

Paul wrote a letter to the Philippian church. He wanted them to know he was thankful for them and prayed for them often. Paul told the Philippians that though he was in prison for preaching the gospel, he was happy because many heard about Jesus. It did not matter to Paul how people heard about God, only that they were hearing about Him.

Paul emphasized to the Philippians that he was not worried about what would happen to him. He said if he lived, he’d be happy because he could continue to live for Jesus. But he said if he died, he’d be happy because he could be with Jesus. Paul encouraged the Philippians to continue to live for God with the strength He gives.

Paul did not want the Christians to be afraid to tell others about Jesus. He reminded the Philippians about Jesus’ attitude. Jesus humbled Himself and lived a life of service. He died for others. Encourage your child to think about Jesus’ example of humility. Discuss how we can live lives that are not selfish but seek humility, forgiveness, and grace among the people with whom we live in community.

Play a game of “Live Like Jesus Hopscotch.” Draw a hopscotch pattern on the ground. Instead of numbers, write short words and phrases related to the same attitude we see in Jesus. Some words can include: kind words, share, forgive, love, give, selfless, help, apologize, pray, trust God, obey God, and so on. Play this the same way as traditional hopscotch. Toss a small stone on to one of the words, hop to it, read it aloud, and state one way we can live like Jesus by following the example of His Word—the Bible.

