

The Church in Philippi—Origin Story

1. How Did the Church in Philippi Begin?

2. Whom Did God Use in Building This Congregation?

3. How is God Likely to Continue to Build Up FCCW?

CONCLUSION: God recorded the beginnings of His congregation in Philippi as a testimony to Christ's power to build His Church just as He promised. In their history we see some of the ways God has used His *appointed means* to establish and grow outposts of His Kingdom throughout the earth. He is faithful and trustworthy. Let us pursue Him together as we dive into studying the book of *Philippians* together in the following months.

First John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning *the word of life*—² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³ that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, *so that you too may have fellowship with us*; and indeed *our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ*.⁴ And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,²⁵ *not neglecting to meet together*, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 13:1-8

Let brotherly love continue.² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.³ Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.⁴ Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.⁵ Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”⁶ So we can confidently say,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Matthew 16:16-19

¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock *I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*.¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”