

# HOPE

## HOME GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

**READ** Philippians 1:1-2

**SHARE** words, phrases, truths that stuck out to you; any questions you have; new insights.

**DISCUSS** the passage together.

1/ Pay attention to the “positional” or “identity” statements in this introduction. What do you notice?

2/ What can you learn about leadership in the church based off this introduction? Dig deep! Check out other passages like 1 Timothy 3, Titus 1, & 1 Peter 5:1-4 for more information on the offices of elder and deacon.

3/ Why is it significant that Paul refers to himself as a slave/servant (doulos) instead of asserting his legitimate role as apostle? How might what Paul says in Philippians 2:7 connect with his vision of leadership? How does this vision differ from the world’s understanding of leadership?

4/ What can we learn about our Christian identity from how Paul addresses the church in these two verses?

5/ What do you think of when you hear the word “saint?” Does it match with how Paul uses the word? Paul is probably drawing from Exodus 19:6 - how does this shed light?

6/ How does it encourage you to know that your primary identity is “in Christ?” What is one problem you are facing right now that you could apply this truth to?

**APPLY** the text to your life (these questions from Redeemer NYC might help).

1/ How can I praise him?

2/ How can I confess my sins on the basis of this text?

3/ If this is really true, what wrong behavior, what harmful emotions or false attitudes result in me when I forget this?

4/ What should I be aspiring to on the basis of this text?

5/ God, why are you telling me this today?

**PRAY** together for the things you just shared, and also for anything else in your life.