



## Discussion Guide:

### When Jesus Begins a Work in You

**Passage:** Philippians 1:1-11

**Summary:** As we begin Paul's letter, we see that he's filled with joy when he thinks of his friends in Philippi because the true story of Jesus has begun to change them and they'll never be the same again. Together, we'll see how real life change is possible...we can actually become more loving, joyful people... when the story of Jesus begins to take root in our lives and to change us.

## Discussion Questions

1. The empire is life apart from God or any human attempt to be autonomous from God. In Paul's day, it was the Roman Empire and the call to worship Caesar as Lord. What does the empire of this age look like? How is the empire of this age forming us?
2. God is in the process of forming you into the image of Jesus...and when He starts to work, He always completes His work. Has God begun that work in your life? When did that start?
3. God uses embodied, loving relationships to shape us more into Christ's image. Why does God use embodied relationships? Who are some people God has used in this way in your life?
4. Our formation, or becoming more like Jesus, is God's work from start to finish, but Paul also says that we actively participate in the process. How do we participate? Are there ways God is inviting you to participate more?

*At the end, take some time to pray for one another in smaller groups.*