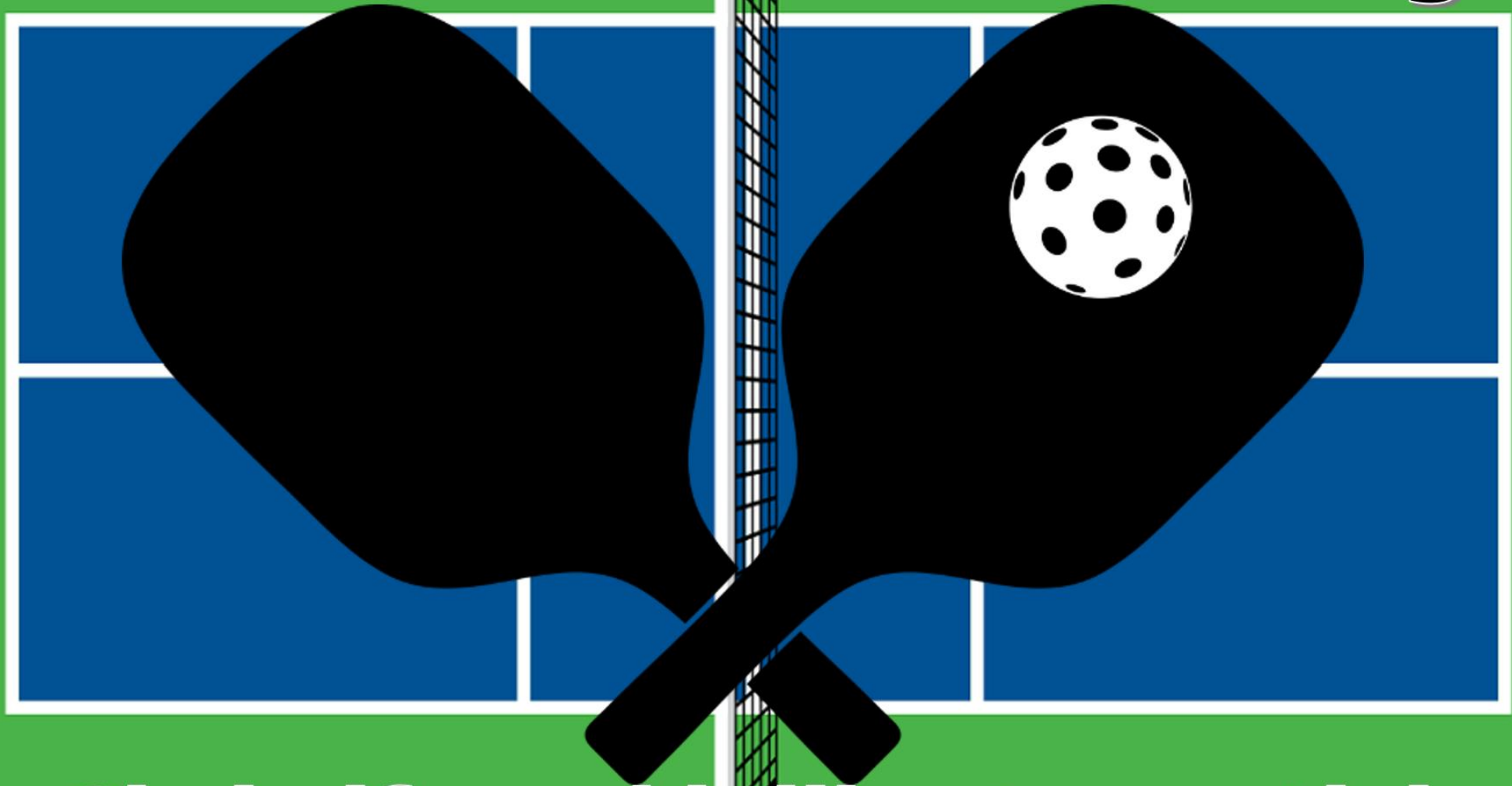


# Pickleball action is Starting...



## See Chris if you'd like to participate



Does the Bible permit both men & women  
to be pastors/ elders/ overseers?

# TACKLING TOUGH QUESTIONS

What leadership roles does the Bible  
teach for men & women in scripture?

Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, from 6 – 7:30 pm



A pair of weathered, brown hands are held up in a gesture of prayer or offering, palms facing forward. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame. The background consists of rough, reddish-brown stone walls. A warm, golden light source, possibly a candle or a small fire, is visible behind the hands, creating a soft glow and casting long, vertical shadows. The overall mood is one of solemnity and faith.

Proclaiming Christ with Joy &  
Peace in all Circumstances

# **PHILIPPIANS**

By the Power of the Resurrection

**Have You Let  
Circumstances Affect  
Your Ability to  
Proclaim Christ?**

## How does a bad day, bad month, or bad year affect you?

First, what do you consider a bad day, a bad month, or a bad year?

*Your car doesn't start*

*You get laid off from your job*

*You lose a loved one*

*You're wrongfully imprisoned*

Is your ability to serve God sabotaged by bad circumstances?

Or do you rely on the Holy Spirit to strengthen you in all circumstances so that you can both serve and proclaim King Jesus?

Do you ever struggle to effectively serve during tough circumstances?

Do you struggle with maintaining joy, peace, and contentment when you experience difficult circumstances?

*If you answered, "Yes," let Philippians be of great inspiration to you.*



# A glimpse of Paul's time in Philippi... (Acts 16)

Paul, Luke, Silas, and others sailed to Philippi (the most prominent city in Macedonia).

Ladies were praying by the river and Paul and Silas spoke to them.

Lydia, who worshipped God, believed and was baptized, and invited them to stay at her home.

As Paul and his team continued to evangelize, a slave-girl cried out...

The slave owners caused a riot, beat, and seized Paul and Silas...

After Paul and Silas were arrested and flogged, they were put in prison, which they felt was a good opportunity to sing hymns of praise...

**Philippians 1:1-6 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,  
To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers  
and deacons: <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the  
Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup> I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,  
<sup>4</sup> always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy,  
<sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.  
<sup>6</sup> And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will  
bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

*Take note of the  
plurality of both  
overseers and  
deacons & the  
order of the  
greeting*

***Romans 6:22 (NIV)*** *But now  
that you have been set free  
from sin and have become  
slaves of God, the benefit you  
reap leads to holiness, and the  
result is eternal life*

*Do you joyfully  
thank God for those  
who faithfully serve  
Him? Are you  
faithfully serving  
Him?*

Does the 2026 “you” look more like Christ than when 2025 began?

**Philippians 1:7-11 (LSB)** <sup>7</sup> For it is only right for me to think this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are fellow partakers with me in this grace. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in full knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup> so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and without fault until the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup> having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which *comes* through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

*Do you recognize that by partaking in God's grace, you are called to defend, proclaim, and confirm the gospel as well?*

*When you are transformed into the image of Christ and produce fruit for His kingdom, do you know that it results in both glory to and the praise of God?*

Have you experienced the "fruit" of righteousness through Christ?



**Philippians 1:12-18 (NKJV)** <sup>12</sup> But I want you to know, brethren, that the things *which happened* to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, <sup>13</sup> so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; <sup>14</sup> and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. <sup>15</sup> Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from good will: <sup>16</sup> The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; <sup>17</sup> but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. <sup>18</sup> What then? Only *that* in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and *in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.*

Consider Paul's reason for rejoicing. How are you participating in the call to proclaim Christ?