

# New Life in Jesus Creates Partnership

Penny Crusade 2017



**ALIVE!**

John 5:24

## Introduction (for teacher's use):

This week's Penny Crusade video focuses on the partnership of Cristo Salva with Pastor Juan Claros in Laguna Verde. This partnership has been very fruitful, and has created enormous opportunity in that area. Our discussion will focus on the idea of partnership in Jesus, highlighting Paul's words in Philippians 1:3–5, which have become very important to us in our ministry here at ACGC.

## Scripture Passage: Philippians 1:3–5 (ESV)

*"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."*

## Teacher Notes:

In Philippians 1, Paul starts off his letter with a big THANK YOU! He thanks the church in a place called Philippi for partnering with him in sharing the gospel in their town and in places all around the region. They'd done this in three ways:

1. By praying for Paul's ministry.
2. By supporting Paul's ministry (through gifts of money and needed supplies).
3. By taking the time to do their own gospel ministry with the people who lived in their city.

It's understandable why Paul was so thankful. Many Christians don't understand their responsibility to be partners in the gospel. But, it is something we are called to do by Jesus. In Matthew 28 (vv. 19–20), Jesus told his earliest followers that it was their responsibility to help lead other people to become followers as well. That responsibility is something that has now been passed on to us. It is that responsibility, and the unity we find in our new life in Jesus that has helped to create partnerships like the ones we see in this week's video. Pastor Juan Claros and the folks at Cristo Salva have partnered in a way that has helped move the mission of Jesus forward in Laguna Verde, reaching many new people with the message of new life in Jesus.

*Let's talk more about how our new life in Jesus creates partnership ...*

## Discussion Questions:

- *Is there anyone you are really thankful for? Why are you thankful for that person?*
- *Who was Paul thankful for in our Bible verses?*

- *Why was Paul thankful?*
- *What about our new life in Jesus causes these kinds of important partnerships?*
- *What are some reasons why partnering with others is important to the mission of Jesus?*

## **Activity: Balloon Game**

### ***Needed Supplies: Balloon(s)***

The object of this game is to illustrate the importance of working together toward a common goal like we learned about in today's lesson. Have the students stand in a circle, holding hands. Drop a balloon into the circle. The goal is to see how many times the kids can tap the balloon into the air without breaking their circle. They may tap the balloon with hands, arms, heads, shoulders, chests or knees — but NO feet. In order for this to work effectively, students have to work cooperatively, each of them making sure they are not letting go of their neighbor's hands. They will soon figure out that they must all move together, as a circle, so to make sure they do not lose connection. If the balloon falls to the ground or a student taps the balloon with their feet, the count begins again. Depending on grade level, you can add more balloons to make it more challenging!