

PHILIPPIANS: GOSPEL JOY

4:10-23	Joy in Gospel Provision
4:1-9	Joy in Gospel Mindedness
3:1-21	Joy in Gospel Righteousness
2:19-30	Joy in Gospel Friendship
1:27-2:18	Joy in Gospel Unity
1:12-26	Joy in Gospel Advance
1:1-11	Joy in Gospel Change



Philippians

Sunday, February 7, 2016

The unmistakable theme in Paul's letter to the Philippians is GOSPEL JOY. Not only does Paul share his joy in the Lord, but he encourages our joy in the Lord. Three times he says, "Rejoice in the Lord." As we reflect upon all that Paul teaches in Philippians, here's what we learn . . .

1. "Rejoice in the Lord" does not _____ you.
2. "Rejoice in the Lord" is not dependent on _____.
3. "Rejoice in the Lord" means _____ God really is the source of true joy as you pursue your joy in God _____ of wrong things, _____ lesser things, and _____ hard things.
4. "Rejoice in the Lord" is an _____ to _____ yourself in God Himself as you _____ yourself in what God is delightfully doing through the _____ . . .
 - In the _____
 - In _____
 - In the _____
 - In _____



Philippians

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Connecting Together

In this 5th week of Winter Growth Groups, take time to connect and share your joys and struggles together.

Studying God's Word Together

1. How did you "come under" God's Word in the message this week?
What did you think or feel as you heard the message of Philippians?
2. The clear theme of Philippians is GOSPEL JOY. Read the book of Philippians together as a group, marking together whenever Paul mentions joy.
3. Paul shares his joy and he encourages ours. But very clearly, Paul's joy was not dependent on his circumstances. What was some of the negative and hard stuff going on in Paul's life and in the Philippian church?
4. So if Paul's not finding his joy in his crummy circumstances, where is he finding it?

5. We were all built for joy and we're all seeking it. Where are places that you have sought it or tend to seek it? In other words, to what have you hitched your "joy" wagon? Wrong things? Lesser things?
6. Does "Rejoice in the Lord" mean we don't find joy anything else? If not, what does it mean?
7. What specific action does this statement motivate you to take in your life right now: *"Rejoice in the Lord" is an ONGOING CHOICE to DELIGHT yourself in God Himself as you INVEST yourself in what God is delightfully doing through the GOSPEL in the world, in others, in the church and in you.*

Household/Family Focus: for discussion in your household

Discuss together our shared longing and pursuit of joy. Talk about ways you can practically "Rejoice in the Lord" together as a household.

Prayer

As you pray for specific needs in your group, practice rejoicing in the Lord together, recognizing, giving thanks for and praising Him for what He's doing in the world, in others, in our church and in your own lives and families. Finally, plead with the Lord to do more in these areas!