



Community Group Sermon Application Questions- Week of Sunday 10/6

Philippians 1:18b-26: “To Live is Christ, to Die is Gain”

Central Truth: God’s joy is unstoppable, able to reveal our greatest purpose and conquer our deepest fears.

Begin by re-reading the passage together. In this passage we see:

-The Fuel for our Unstoppable Joy (vv. 18b-19)

(We have the **promise** of God’s Word. We have the **prayers** of God’s People. We have the **provision** of God’s Spirit.)

- 1) In verse 18b, Paul quotes directly Job 13:16. Why is important for us to reflect upon the examples and struggles of the saints who have gone before us?
- 2) How does Paul’s OT quotation show us the importance of memorizing scripture in our own lives? What does hiding God’s Word in our hearts produce in us?
- 3) How do the three elements of the “fuel” for God’s joy (Promise- 18b, Prayers- 19a, Provision of the Holy Spirit- 19b) work in tandem in our lives?

-The Fruit of our Unstoppable Joy (vv. 20-26)

(We seek **Christ’s honor** above all. We can **pour ourselves out** for His service. We have **hope greater than our deepest fear**.)

- 1) How does God’s joy implanted in our hearts give us contentment in every situation (whether life or death)? How might this truth impact the struggles you are facing right now?
- 2) How does possessing God’s joy empower us to value the needs and spiritual growth of others as an essential concern for us? What, if anything, in your heart needs to change to put on this mindset?
- 3) Consider this passage as well as 1 Corinthians 15:50-58. How does God’s deep-seated joy overcome our greatest fears? How can we encourage our church family and others in our life to combat deep-seated and demoralizing fears (like death and lack of purpose) that can capture and cripple us?