



Community Group Sermon Application Questions
Week of Sunday 9/15

Philippians Introduction and 1:1-7: "A Remarkable Joy"

Central Truth: Put on God's joy that flows from His gospel and flows out into every part of our lives.

Begin by reading the passage together: Philippians 1:1-7

Rest in God's Protective Care (vv. 1-2)

- 1) Read Acts 16:6-15. How do we see God orchestrating His perfect plan in the founding of the church in Philippi?
- 2) How does God's unlikely work to establish the Philippian church provide us with peace and confidence when we face uncertainty?
- 3) Share an example of God's amazing and unlikely grace in your life. Consider how God's work in your life can encourage each other?

Fight for God's Joy (vv. 3-7)

(Note the 4 types of joy in vv. 3-7. –Joy of Prayer, Joy of Partnership, Joy of Hopeful Expectation, Joy in the Midst of Suffering)

- 4) Read Philippians 4:15-17 and 2 Corinthians 8:1-5. Paul commends the Philippians (one of the churches in Macedonia) as his partners in the gospel. What characteristics define the beauty of their partnership? What can we learn from their example in how we honor God with our time, talents, and treasure?
- 5) Read Philippians 1:9 and Ephesians 1:15-19. How does God's gift of prayer fuel our joy? Why is the gift of prayer (especially praying for others) necessary and life-giving for us?
- 6) Read 2 Corinthians 6:4-10. Most often our joy in Christ is revealed in suffering. Why is this the case? Share how God has (or is currently using your affliction to maximize your joy in Christ?