

Philippians 1:12-26

One Point: Find your joy in Jesus through every circumstance

1. What's your comfort food?
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Read v. 12-18

1. When things don't go the way you plan how do you typically react? Why?
 2. Who is someone you've seen go through a terrible circumstance but still had joy through it? Where did their joy come from? How did people respond to their joy? What did you learn from them?
 3. How do vs.12-14 help you understand God's sovereignty? (Rom 8:28, Gen 50:19-20)
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Read v. 19-26

1. V. 19 - How have you seen the Holy Spirit empower you during tough circumstances? In what ways do we quench the Holy Spirit so that we don't receive the help He gives?
 2. V. 20 - Have you ever been "ashamed" of being a Christian? Why? How can you have courage next time to exalt Christ (megaphone)? (Romans 1:16)
 3. How specifically does someone develop the maturity and faith to be able to face painful circumstances with a positive hopeful attitude?
 4. How does finding joy in Christ help you respond to tough situations? (Gospel – Gal 2:20)
 5. What is something you can do this week to find joy in Jesus?
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What I will be talking about

As you contend for the faith and proclaim Christ, you can experience joy. It's been said, "If we see Jesus in our circumstances, then we will see our circumstances in Jesus." Paul lived this! Remember, Paul is writing this letter from a Roman prison. Furthermore, five of Paul's thirteen letters were written from prison. Paul would not let himself give way to self-pity. He knows that in order to exude joy in the midst of adversity he must see adversity from an eternal perspective. The key to his joy was between his ears. Over thirty times in Philippians Paul refers to the mind or to remembering. When joy has leaked out of your life, the leak is between your ears. You must change your thinking so that you can experience joy once again. May you do so today.