

BETTER TOGETHER #3

Philippians 1:15-30

06/21/2020
Sunday a.m.

SLIDE 1 – FEEDBACK TIME – Post on FB Live Stream or text 775-322-3004

SLIDE 2 – BETTER TOGETHER #3– SGN

- 2020 – Compelled by Jesus – Deep love for God, His Word & presence

SLIDE 3 – 1st CENTURY PHILIPPI

- **Philippi** – a colony of largely ex-Roman soldiers – living in their reward
- **Via Egnatia** – one of main roads from Macedonia to Rome
 - Paul & team ended up in Philippi – HS said no to several other places
 - Paul dreams they're supposed to go to Philippi – **power encounter**
- Paul writes to the Philippians from Rome/house arrest – awaiting trial w/Caesar
- Key word/phrase that will resurface several times in Philippians – JOY

SLIDE 4 – PAUL IN CHAINS

- Who wants to be in chains, wrongfully accused, w/'effectiveness diminished?'
- Paul *can't* fulfill the purpose of God for his life while in chains, right?
 - Friends, partners in the gospel, Christians all over – pray for deliverance
 - We do this ALL the time – we're in a bad spot & we want RESCUE
- WHAT IF... the very thing/situation we want to be rescued FROM is the VERY purpose of God's for us in this time?
 - Doesn't mean don't pray for rescue – means BE where you ARE
 - What would Jesus BE & DO if He was in my shoes, in this situation?
 - Prison Letters, bearing witness, sharing testimony w/any & all
 - **Acts 9** – I will show him how much he will suffer for My Name
 - **Acts 4** – praying for boldness vs. deliverance
- Vv12-14 – "Guys! This situation is actually serving to advance the GGN; everyone in the whole palace knows Paul is in chains for Christ – testimony
 - As a result – other Christians emboldened to proclaim GGN w/o fear

SLIDES 5,6 – PHILLIPIANS 1:14-18a

SLIDE 7 – GGN: GOSPEL GOOD NEWS

- Paul's mission in life – the declaration of the Gospel Good News:
 - Salvation is available in Christ Jesus, by faith, through grace
- Paul overjoyed – when those who've received the GGN, share it w/others
- Paul – kind of well-known within the Judeo-Christian world
 - Saul the Pharisee orthodoxy enforcer to Paul the GGN proclaimer

SLIDE 8 – MOTIVES: GOOD & BAD

- Paul has enemies, people who resent his reputation & God-given ministry
- Some 'launch' into ministry/proclaiming the GGN to build OWN kingdom
 - Selfish ambition, envy, rivalry – strike while the iron is hot (Paul in jail)
 - Using Paul's imprisonment as chance to discredit/delegitimize him
- Some proclaim GGN out of love & goodwill
- "But what does it matter? The important thing is Christ is preached..."

SLIDES 9-11 – PHILIPPIANS 1:18b-26

SLIDE 12 – CHRIST BE EXALTED

- Paul – I know 1 way or another, I will be delivered from current situation
- Praying, believing, & having COURAGE – Christ be exalted, live or die
- To live is Christ, to die is gain – BOTH outcomes are "WINS" for Paul
 - To LIVE – I get to keep doing what I'm doing, proclaiming GGN, making disciples who disciple, working alongside in partnership w/believers
 - To DIE – I get to be WITH Christ – to be absent from the body...
 - Which is better? Super much hard to choose
- That said, I am convinced I'll get out & be with you → progress & joy in faith
 - Your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound – because of Christ

SLIDES 13,14 – PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30

SLIDE 15 – WHATEVER HAPPENS...

- Whether Paul lives or dies as a result of this prison time
- Live (conduct yourselves in a manner) WORTHY of the gospel of Christ
 - We reflect Christ, we reflect on other Christians
 - Whether I come see you/just hear the stories, I'll know what's up
- Stand firm in the Spirit, w/o fear in face of your opponents
 - The NO FEAR – sign of their destruction/our salvation

SLIDE 16 – (GRANTED IN CHRIST) TO BELIEVE IN HIM, TO SUFFER FOR HIM

- Suffering isn't a sign of failure or an indication something's done wrong
 - **Matt 10** – if they come after the teacher to kill, what about the students?
 - WHAT IF... the very thing/situation we want to be rescued FROM is the VERY purpose of God's for us in this time? Endure w/confident faith
- **Revelation 12** – blood of the Lamb, Word of testimony, willing to die
- God will give us WHAT we need in our TIME of need

SLIDE 17– BETTER TOGETHER

- Being a people rallied around Jesus & the Gospel Good News
- Partnering w/the on-going work of the Missio Dei
- We need each other; encourage & strengthen each other

- Our examples for each other – encourage one another

SLIDE 18 – 2020: COMPELLED BY JESUS

- Theme for 2020 – Compelled, directed (strongly)

SLIDE 19 – WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH THIS?

SLIDE 20 – PRAYER IS AVAILABLE – ANNOUNCE THIS

- Hillside APP – prayer requests – text to church phone or WEB@Hillside4.org
- Make sure “Notifications” are on for both “General” & “Prayer” notifications