

Community Groups

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Use this guide as a resource for your community group to help you further engage with the sermon from this weekend.

Introduction to Philippians

February 18, 2024

1. Who wrote Philippians, and what do we know about his relationship with the Philippian church (see Acts 16:11-40)?
2. What is the difference between happiness and joy?
3. “Our joy must be based on doctrine, and our doctrine must be based on Christ.” Real joy is rooted in right beliefs about Christ. What happens when we get this foundation wrong?
4. How is Paul’s response to his difficult circumstances (i.e., imprisonment, shipwreck, physical beatings, etc.) evident in Philippians? How does his response impact you?
5. Paul conveys substantial doctrine in Philippians. How do these doctrines challenge and encourage you during difficulties?
 - a. The **righteousness** of God – Phil. 3:9
 - b. The **resurrection** – Phil. 3:20-21
 - c. The **faithfulness** of God in our salvation – Phil. 1:6
 - d. The **certainty** of death and reward – Phil. 1:21
 - e. The **transcendence** of joy – Phil. 4:4
 - f. The **strength** of our Lord – Phil. 4:13
6. “The secret to Paul’s joy was that his mind was filled with Christ.”
 - a. What has filling your mind with Christ looked like this past week?
 - b. How can you intentionally fill your mind with Christ this week?
 - c. How can our group be a place to process the success and challenges you experience as you seek to fill your mind with Christ?
7. “As a Christian, no one can steal your joy; you freely give it up.”
 - a. Are there ways that you have given up your joy?
 - b. In what areas of your life would you like to sense the joy of Christ?