



JOY

God Wants to Give You
A Summary Message on Philippians

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • AUGUST 8, 2021

All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@SouthReno.com.

Statistics

- There have been 25 messages (including this one) in this series.
- 75 messages in all (three for each Sunday).
- There have been 7 fire alarms (all false)—all last Sunday.
- There have been 4 medical emergencies—one being a possible code.
- Approximately 325 'study-hours' have gone into our study.

Key Verses

The JOY God Wants you to have:

1. God is at work right now in our lives.

Philippians 1:6, NASB95 -⁶ *For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.*

- God commences His work in you.
- God continues His work in you.
- God completes His work in you.

2. Developing "Joy" is a major part of His work.

Philippians 1:25, NLT -²⁵ *Knowing this, I am convinced that I will remain alive so I can continue to help all of you grow and experience the joy of your faith.*

- Without "JOY," we will not be ready for Christ's return.

3. The furtherance of the Gospel is essential.

Philippians 1:12, NLT -¹² *And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News.*

Definition of Joy: "Biblical Joy, accompanied with God's calming presence, is the ability to see spiritual truths and eternal realities in the midst of any situation."

4. Our relationship with Christ is primary.

Philippians 1:21, NASB95 -²¹ *For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.*

- I'm ready for heaven but needed on earth.

5. Have a humble attitude—as did Christ.

Philippians 2:5–7, NASB95 -⁵ *Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.*

- Who was Jesus—God.
- What did Jesus become—a human being.
- What Jesus Chose—death.
- What Jesus gained—an exalted position.
- What did we gain—opportunity to be right with God.

6. We must remember why Christ came.

Philippians 2:9–11, NIV84 -⁹ *Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

- Jesus descended that we might ascend.
- Jesus was born that we might be born again.
- Jesus became a slave that we might become saints.
- Jesus was forsaken that we might not be forsaken.
- Jesus died that with might live.
- Jesus came down that we might be caught up.

We are to remember....

That He died • Why He died • How He died.

7. We are to shine—not whine.

Philippians 2:12–13, NIV84 -¹² *Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.*

- With Joy in our hearts, we advance the cause of the Gospel in this fallen world when we keep an attitude of thankful submission to God in the midst of hard times.

8. We must seek a servant’s honor (Timothy).

Philippians 2:20–21, NLT -²⁰ *I have no one else like Timothy, who genuinely cares about your welfare. ²¹ All the others care only for themselves and not for what matters to Jesus Christ.*

- A servant’s heart is centered on the things of Christ.
- A servant’s heart put’s others ahead of themselves.
- A servant must be willing to go anywhere.
- A servant must be willing to serve anyone.
- A servant must be willing to sacrifice anything.

9. We must understand “sacrifice.” (Epaphroditus)

Philippians 2:25, 27, 30, NASB95 -²⁵ *But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need...²⁷ For indeed he was sick to the point of death...*

³⁰ *because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete [what God has called him too.]*

- Illness and suffering is part of living in a fallen world.
- Illness and suffering is unrelated to personal goodness.
- Illness and suffering amplifies this truth—we need a Savior.

The historian, Josephus, said that Epaphroditus (a layman) was a forerunner of the “Parabolani”—the ‘risktakers’ in early NT ministry.

Para means to “come along side” and *bolani* means “danger.”

10. Christ is the source of lasting Joy.

Biblical JOY, found only in Jesus Christ but accompanied by God’s calming presence, is the ability to see spiritual truths and eternal realities amidst any situation.

THE EMPHASIS IN CHAPTER 3 IS ON ‘WHAT REALLY MATTERS!’

vv. 1-11 Paul’s Past <i>The Accountant</i> “I count” • New Values	vv. 12-16 Paul’s Present <i>The Athlete</i> “I press” • New Vigor	vv. 17-21 Paul’s Future <i>The Alien</i> “I look” • New Vision
---	---	--

Philippians 3:7–8, NASB95 -⁷ *But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.*

Philippians 3:12, NASB95 -¹² *Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. ¹³ Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead...*

Philippians 3:20, NASB95 -²⁰ *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;*

- We find true joy only in the Son of God.
- We reject everything opposed to God’s way.

11. The Lord is near. (both in proximity and chronology)

Philippians 4:5–6, NASB95 -⁵ *Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. ⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

- We must never be stressed in anything.
- We must always be thankful in everything.

“You can’t wait until life isn’t hard anymore before you decide to be happy.” - Jane Marczewski (a.k.a., “Nightbirde”)

12. The Lord is sufficient and will finish what He starts.

Philippians 4:13, NASB95 -¹³ *I can do (endure) all things through Him who strengthens me... ¹⁹ And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*