

Sermon Title: Joy in Community

Sermon Series: Philippians – Unbreakable Joy

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-4

Speaker: Pastor Ian Bonthron



What gives us _____ in life?

University of Chicago Poll on Happiness

2020 – 14% are very happy

2018 – 31% are very happy

What gives us _____ in life?

1. Motivations for _____

Philippians 2:1 ESV

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,

Philippians 2:1 ESV

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,

How does Christ encourage us?

1:2 - Gives us grace and peace

1:6 - Working in us, Will complete eternal life

1:11 - Changes us to be righteous

1:19 - The Holy Spirit uses our prayers

1:23 - Life with Christ forever

1:26 - Greater Glory to live for

1:27 - Good news of Christ worth living for

1:28 - Salvation in the face of difficulty

1:29 - Gift of Believing and Suffering with purpose

Philippians 2:1 ESV

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,

Colossians 3:12 ESV

12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,

2. Joy through _____

Philippians 2:2 ESV

2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Romans 12:10 ESV

10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Philippians 2:2 ESV

2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

John 17:21 ESV

21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

3. Joy through _____

Philippians 2:3-4 ESV

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 Timothy 1:15 ESV

15 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

The _____ of _____ is a joy killer

“I’ve always wished in those times at a dinner party that I was one of the tiny handful of men who have walked on the moon, so that I could just sit there eating my hors d’oeuvre, kind of chewing, while the guy went on and on about how many cars and how many houses and how many vacations...and then I could just say, “Yeah. I walked on the moon.”

—Brian Regan

Philippians 2:3-4 ESV

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 Peter 5:5-7 ESV

5 Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

What gives us joy in life?

Joy is found through Unity and Humility in Christ

Questions:

Getting to know you Questions:

1. Who is the most humble person you have ever met? Can you describe them for us?
2. What gives you joy?
3. Do you think our modern culture values humility? Or that our modern culture has an accurate understanding of what humility is?

Into the Bible Questions:

Read Philippians 2:1-4

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 4 always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy,

4. What was something from the passage or sermon that surprised you, helped you, confused you, or bothered you?
5. What does this passage tell us about God? People? Living to please God?
6. How does your relationship with Jesus bring you comfort?

7. What gave Paul joy? Does this match what gives you Joy?

8. How would you define selfishness? Can you think of examples of things we ourselves do, or have done, from ambition, conceit, or looking to our own interests?

9. Why should we consider others more important than ourselves?

10. How does selfish ambition ruin unity in the church?

11. How does lowliness of mind promote unity and love?

12. What are some examples of esteeming others better than yourself in a church context?

For Extra Study, Read Romans 15:1-7

Romans 15:1-7

15 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. 3 For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me." 4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

13. What does this passage say about putting others first?

14. How did Christ show this (vs. 3)?

15. What needs to change in your life so that you can live this out?

16. Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations.

Application Questions

17. How can someone “not look to their own interests, but rather to the interests of others”?

a. What does that look like?

b. What does that not look like?

18. If Jesus comforts us, what are some ways we can comfort others this week?

19. This week, What would change if you really sought after your joy by focusing on unity and humility in Christ? How can this group help?