

IT'S ALL ABOUT PERSPECTIVE - 1

“Now What?”

August 20, 2023

Philippians 1:2-7 *Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. 7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. (NIV)*

- We all have a What and don't understand the Why.
- God always has a Why behind the What.
- I don't have to understand the Why to trust God in the What.

TWO QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN LIFE IS HARD

1. NOW WHAT?

Philippians 1:12 *Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. (NIV)*

Philippians 1:13 *As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. (NIV)*

Philippians 1:14 *Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the Word of God more courageously and fearlessly. (NIV)*

2. SO WHAT?

Philippians 1:15-18 *It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. 16 The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. 18 But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice. (NIV)*

Philippians 1:21 *For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (NIV)*