



Title: WHERE'S THE JOY?

Main Scripture: Philippians 1:1-2

The Author of Philippians

(Phil 3:5-6)

Joy in all Circumstances

(Jam 1:2-4)

A Surrender that Satisfies

(Phil 1:21)

“Where’s The Joy?” | September 9/10, 2023

Small Group Sermon Study | Philippians 1:1-2

Prayer: *Father, we thank You for who you are. May we be renewed and transformed through the study of Your word. Holy Spirit, lead us as we read, discern, and discuss this passage together. In Jesus’ name, amen.*

Icebreaker: What brought you the most joy this summer? This past year? And why?

Read the key passage(s) of Scripture from the message and review the sermon notes, then answer the following questions:

1. What did you like or appreciate about this message? What really hit home for you?
2. Paul – the Apostle of Joy: what do you think/feel when you consider Paul’s history and his circumstances, and yet you hear him called “the Apostle of Joy”?
3. Joy in all Circumstances:
 - a. Pastor Rob reminded us of the challenges of the past few years. How and where have you found joy in the midst of trying times and challenges?
 - b. James 1:2-4 tells us to actually consider it *pure joy* when we face trials. In what ways can we help each other find joy in the midst of the trials and struggles of life?
4. A Surrender that Satisfies: respond to the statement Pastor Rob made when he said, “In order to experience freedom and joy, I have to surrender my will. In order to live, I need to die to self.”

Silently read James 1:2-4 and Hebrews 12:1-2, asking the Holy Spirit to speak to you.

1. What emotions do these passages stir up in you?
2. What do you need to surrender to Jesus? How will you respond to what God is showing you?
3. What verse, phrase, word or challenge do you need to take with you this week? How will you act on what you’ve heard?

Prayer: *Close in prayer together, praying for yourself and for one another, according to whatever God has shown or spoken to you today.*