ROCKPOINT ____CHURCH ____

Part 2- "A Letter From Lockdown"

We all want to navigate the difficult circumstances we face with peace, confidence, and joy. In this series, we started looking at the life of Paul, a man who went through more difficulty and uncertainty than most, and yet consistently navigated through it all with peace, confidence, and joy. Wouldn't it be cool if he could share with us how to do that? Here's what's so great... we have Paul's actual words! We get to read letters that he wrote in the midst of difficulty and uncertainty where he shared how he lived this way.

1. Is your experience of Christianity something that feels like a list of things you have to do in order to fix your own brokenness or circumstances? Have you ever strived to do better and be better and ended up feeling worse that you couldn't live up to a standard that you or someone else put on you?

2. Discuss the human tendency to strive to prove ourselves or "fix" ourselves in this way. Where do you think that comes from?

Read Philippians 1:1-12

3. What do you think of when you hear the word "gospel?" How would you define it?

Read Colossians 2:22

4. Do you wrestle with the idea that in order to be a Christian you have to live a perfect life as Jesus did?

5. Can you rest in the truth that Christianity isn't a set of rules that you have to strive to live up to, but it's what Jesus did for you that changes your life?

The gospel of Jesus means that though we are more sinful than we ever dared believe, we are more loved than we ever dared hope and more whole than we ever dared imagine!

6. You are more loved, and more whole even though you wrestle, doubt, and struggle with the brokenness in and around you. Have you ever gotten to a place where you truly understand what Jesus did for you?

7. Is it hard for you to trust that God knows everything about you and loves you anyways? If so why? What is preventing you from believing that is true of you?

8. By placing your trust in Jesus and what He did for you on the cross you are made new. Jesus does the life change in you and all you have to do is trust Him. How does this truth give you the freedom to stop striving to live up to the idea that as a Christian you have to act and be a certain way?

9. Do you feel that because of what Christ did for you that you can walk with peace, confidence, and joy through the mess that is in and around you right now? Why or why not?

10. If you have been striving to please God by fixing your circumstances and brokenness yourself, would you be willing to pray and discover what the gospel really means for you and rest in who He says you are?

The gospel (good news) of Jesus has the power to free us in a way that allows us to rest in the truth that though we are sinful, we are more loved than we dared hope and more whole than we dared imagine. Trusting that is truly the secret to walking through every season of uncertainty with the peace, confidence, and joy that Paul walked in.