

# THE SUMMER OF JOY 07

## SMILE STEALERS

*PHILIPPIANS 2:19-3:21*

*SOMETIMES THE SMILE STEALER TAKES \_\_\_\_\_ SMILE.*

*SOMETIMES THE SMILE STEALER IS ONLY AFTER \_\_\_\_\_ SMILE.*

*THEY FIND \_\_\_\_\_ SMILE BY TAKING \_\_\_\_\_*

*SOMETIMES THEY STEAL YOUR SMILE THROUGH \_\_\_\_\_ OR BROKEN*

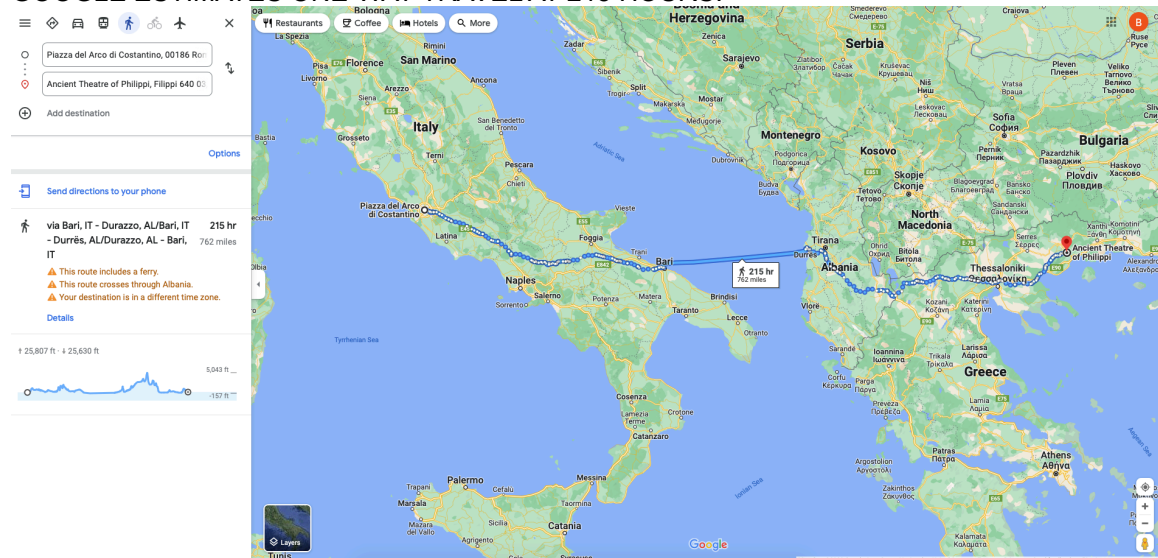
*Philippians 2:19–20 (NASB95)*

*But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of your condition.*

*Philippians 2:19–20 (NASB95)*

*20 For I have no one else of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare.*

GOOGLE ESTIMATES ONE-WAY TRAVEL AT 215 HOURS.



*Philippians 2:21 (NASB95)*

*For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus.*

**DON'T BE TOO HARSH ON PAUL'S HARSHNESS.**

WHEN YOU ARE IN BATTLE YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO COUNT ON YOUR  
\_\_\_\_\_.

*Proverbs 25:19 (NASB95)*

*Like a bad tooth and an unsteady foot is confidence in a faithless man in time of trouble.*

HOW DO YOU KEEP YOUR SMILE EVEN WHEN SOMEONE HAS  
DISAPPOINTED YOU?

1) \_\_\_\_\_ *IT.*

2) \_\_\_\_\_ *ON.*

*Philippians 2:22–30 (NASB95)*

<sup>22</sup>*But you know of his proven worth, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child serving his father.*

<sup>23</sup>*Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things go with me;*

<sup>24</sup>*and I trust in the Lord that I myself also will be coming shortly.*

*Philippians 2:22–30 (NASB95)*

<sup>25</sup>*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;*

<sup>26</sup>*because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick.*

<sup>29</sup>*Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold men like him in high regard;*

FOCUS YOUR ENERGY ON THE \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE.  
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP THEM FROM TAKING YOUR SMILE.

SOMETIMES THE SMILE STEALER WILL \_\_\_\_\_ YOU

*Philippians 3:1 (NASB95)*

*Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.*

*Philippians 3:2 (NASB95)*

*2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;*

THE PRESSURE YOU ARE GOING TO FEEL IS THE PRESSURE TO ABANDON  
GOD AND STOP TELLING PEOPLE WHAT HE SAID ABOUT HOW WE  
SHOULD LIVE.

*The \_\_\_\_\_ of the enemy have changed but the  
\_\_\_\_\_ hasn't changed. He's still wants your smile.*

*How do we move forward with grace and Joy?*

## I. DON'T \_\_\_\_\_ TO THEM

*Philippians 3:3 (NASB95)*

*<sup>3</sup>for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh,*

IT'S EASY FOR THAT STUFF TO AFFECT YOU. AFTER A WHILE YOU MIGHT  
DOUBT YOUR CONVICTIONS.

YOU HAVE TO \_\_\_\_\_ THEM. YOU DON'T HAVE TO \_\_\_\_\_  
TO THEM.

## II. DON'T \_\_\_\_\_ ON THEM

PAUL NEVER LET THEM HAVE HIS SMILE

HE REFUSED TO FIXATE ON THEM.

IF YOU BECOME CONSUMED \_\_\_\_\_ THEM YOU WILL BE  
CONSUMED \_\_\_\_\_ THEM.

### III. KEEP LOOKING \_\_\_\_\_

*Philippians 3:4–7 (NASB95)*

<sup>4</sup>*although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:*

<sup>5</sup>*circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;*

<sup>6</sup>*as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.*

<sup>7</sup>*But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.*

*Philippians 3:8 (NASB95)*

*More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but RUBBISH so that I may gain Christ,*

*I count it but rubbish... **SKUBALON**. The word means **MANURE**.*

Here's a reference note from the NET Bible:

*The word here translated “dung” was often used in Greek as a vulgar term for fecal matter. As such it would most likely have had a certain shock value for the readers. This may well be Paul’s meaning here, especially since the context is about what the flesh produces.*

HERE’S THE MANTRA OF POST-MODERNISM, “THERE IS \_\_\_\_\_ GOD. THERE ARE \_\_\_\_\_ RULES. DO THE BEST YOU CAN. TRY TO \_\_\_\_\_ YOURSELF”

PAUL SAID, ALL THAT RELIGIOUS LEGALISM STUFF IS SKUBALON.

WELL ALL THAT REBELLIOUS HEDONISM IS SKUBALON TOO.

*Philippians 3:18–19 (NASB95)*

<sup>18</sup>*For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ,*

<sup>19</sup>*whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.*

*Philippians 3:20–21 (NASB95)*

<sup>20</sup>*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;*

<sup>21</sup>*who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.*