

Be the Reason Someone Rejoices
(Phil 1:18-26)

Big Idea: Supporting one another produces joy; so, we strive to give others reason to rejoice.

Yes, and I **will rejoice**, ¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰ as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴ But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.

²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

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Be the Reason Someone Rejoices

1. Live courageously (vv. 18-20).
2. Live/Die for Christ (vv. 21-24).
3. Live to impact someone's life (vv. 25-26).

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Be Courageous because:

- i. Prayer works (v. 19a).
- ii. The Spirit helps (v. 19b).
- iii. Salvation comes (deliverance, v. 19b).
- iv. Gospel will succeed (v. 20a).
- v. Christ will be honored (v. 20b).
- vi. God knows best (v. 20c).

Joy arises from:

- i. Praying for one another.
- ii. Relying on the Spirit.
- iii. Hoping in the Lord.
- iv. Honoring Christ.

2. Live/Die for Christ (vv. 21-24).

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Live=Christ

- i. Everything we do is for Christ (Col 3:23).
- ii. Seek first the kingdom of God (Mt 6:33).
- iii. Love the Lord with all your heart (Mt 22:37).
- iv. Present your bodies as a living sacrifice (Rom 12:1-2).

Die=Gain

- i. God has prepared a glorious place for us (1 Cor 2:9).
- ii. An eternal weight of glory awaits us (2 Cor 4:17-18).
- iii. Our inheritance is secure (Eph 1:4-14).

“We must not wait until we are at the end of our tether: [Christ] must be found at the center of our life: in life, and not only in death; in health and vigor, and not only in suffering; in activity, and not only in sin.”

--Dietrich Bonhoeffer

3. Live to impact someone's life (vv. 25-26).

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Give others cause to glory in Christ.

- i. Choose to be used by God (22-23a, 25).
- ii. The *right* thing may not be our preference (23b).
- iii. We control our response to difficulty (23-24).
- iv. Our actions impact other's lives (24-26).

Find joy as you give other reason
to glory in Christ Jesus.