

PART TWO

Philippians 2:12-18 // September 25

JOY IN ALL SEASONS

A SERMON SERIES IN PHILIPPIANS

Prepare Your Heart & Mind

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



Reflect/Connect

- Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

Grow in the Word

- These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

REFLECT/CONNECT

- In what ways were you encouraged by last week's study?
- What thoughts or feelings come to mind when you think about the concept of obedience?

GROW IN THE WORD

Paul challenged the Philippians to respond to the example of Jesus by continuing to live in obedience whether or not Paul returned to them. He reminded them that behind their efforts, God was working (v. 12-13).

- Why did Paul repeatedly urge the Philippians to obey in his absence? See Philippians 1:15-17, 1:27.
- What role do works and obedience play in our salvation? See Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:8; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15.
- What are moments, circumstances, or situations that make obeying God hard to do?

Paul commanded the Philippians to completely put off grumbling and arguing, which would result in blamelessness such that they would be like lights shining brightly in the darkness (v. 14-15).

- How does grumbling and disputing connect to some of the big things Paul has discussed in Philippians so far? (i.e. progress for the gospel, unity, humility, obedience, joy)
- What are you naturally tempted to complain, grumble, or argue about?

GROW IN THE WORD

- How have you seen the picture that Paul painted in these verses displayed in real life?

Paul looked forward to future glory and practiced what he preached. Whether he would live or die from his imprisonment, he rejoiced in the Philippians and urged them to rejoice like him (v. 16-18).

- What command or exhortation is God calling you to obey in light of this passage?

- How does this passage encourage, motivate, or convict you to obey or rejoice in moments when it's hard to do so?

SERIES RESOURCES

OVERVIEW: PHILIPPIANS

An animated video by the Bible Project provides a thorough overview of the book of Philippians. The video offers a great summary of the book while emphasizing that every Christian's story can be an expression of Jesus' ultimate story.

- <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/philippians/>

INTRODUCTION TO PHILIPPIANS

A fundamental introduction to the book of Philippians from the ESV Study Bible. Get a quick synopsis of the book's background to help you gain a better understanding of the book of Philippians as a whole.

- <https://www.esv.org/resources/esv-global-study-bible/introduction-to-philippians/>

PHILIPPIANS: A COMMENTARY BY THE GOSPEL COALITION

A free, downloadable commentary of the entire book of Philippians. This commentary offers background material and a section-by-section commentary of the entire book.

- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/commentary/philippians/>

BE JOYFUL: EVEN WHEN THINGS GO WRONG, YOU CAN HAVE JOY BY WARREN WIERSBE

A timeless resource by one of this generation's most trusted teachers, Be Joyful gives readers invaluable insights into the history, meaning, and context of Philippians. This new version includes study questions at the end of each chapter to aid readers in reflection and application.

- https://www.amazon.com/Be-Joyful-Philippians-Things-Commentary-ebook/dp/B005MT7WSC/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1659553546&sr=1-19

LIFE LESSONS FROM PHILIPPIANS: GUIDE TO JOY BY MAX LUCADO

A guide through the book of Philippians by pastor and author Max Lucado that offers its readers thoughtful questions, encouraging stories, and reflections to dig deeper into God's Word. Lucado unpacks Paul's letter to the young church emphasizing Paul's focus on living a life full of joy, peace, and contentment even in the midst of trouble.

- https://www.amazon.com/Life-Lessons-Philippians-Max-Lucado-ebook/dp/B077Y2F619/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1659553546&sr=1-18