

PART THREE

Philippians 3:1-9 // October 9



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 are common things we protect ourselves against, or things we consider dangerous to us?

GROW IN THE WORD

Paul charged the Philippians once more to rejoice in the Lord. Then, he explained that writing the same things to them was a protection for them. He warned his readers against false teachers and used choice words to describe them (v. 1-3).

- What were these false teachers teaching (consider the term "false circumcision")? See Colossians 2:11-15; Galatians 5:2-6; Philippians 3:9.
- Why do you think Paul condemned these teachers so strongly, yet when people sought to cause him "distress" in his imprisonment, he rejoiced? See Philippians 1:17-18; Galatians 1:6-9.
- How often do you view your standing before God to be based on your personal merit or efforts, and have you ever considered this to be a danger?

Paul contended that if anyone could put confidence in himself to earn righteousness before God, it was him. He listed all the qualifications these false teachers would have considered necessary for good standing before God (v. 4-6).

- What stands out to you about Paul's list of qualifications?
- What are current-day examples of things we believe will earn us favor before God?

GROW IN THE WORD

Paul considered his earthly qualifications and all of his advantages in life to be worse than worthless compared to knowing, gaining, and being found in Jesus (v. 7-9).

- What did all of Paul's qualifications, advantages, and accomplishments fail to provide for him? See Romans 3:19-21, 28; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 3:9.
- What good things have come to you because of your relationship with Jesus?
- How do you want your thoughts, feelings, actions, or attitudes to change in light of this passage?

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