



“JOY” - Philippians - Week 1 March 3rd

Read Phil 4:4

This verse sums up the theme of this book. Joy!

How would you define joy?

What is the one thing that brings you the greatest joy?

To gain a better grasp on the book of Philippians we must look at where it all began. Take a few moments and read about the beginning of Paul's second missionary journey, the start of the church at Philippi.

Read Acts 16:11-15

Can anyone relate to the story of Lydia? How can you share the Gospel to a person that claims there is a God but is not a Jesus follower?

Read Acts 16:16-21

The demon-possessed girl can represent many people in our life that are controlled by everything except the Spirit of God. How can we approach the lost with the same boldness Paul did?

Read Acts 16:22-36

The jailer represents the blue-collar worker that is busy doing his job without taking into consideration his eternal destiny. How do we take the Gospel to them?

These are the first stories we read concerning the church at Philippi. God started a church through the faithfulness of Paul taking the Gospel to these 3 people. What should this tell us about the importance of taking the Gospel everywhere we go?

As Paul was writing this letter he must have had these 3 individuals on his mind. Seeing Christ transform their lives and the lives around them must have brought Paul tremendous joy. We learned this morning that true joy comes from Christ; more specifically it comes through our identity being found in Christ.

Read Psalm 51:12

There is no greater joy than when we experience the forgiveness of sins! Take some time and share some stories of the joy you experienced as a result of your salvation.

Read Phil 4:4-5

How can we as the body of Christ exude joy and let everyone see how we have been changed by the Gospel?