

Sermon Notes
Good News Church
Joy in the Journey
“The Celebration of Joy”
Philippians Summary
Drue Warner
4-26-26

PHILIPPIANS SUMMARY

Resource: “Be Joyful” by Warren Wiersbe

Theme: “*The Joy of the Lord*”

CH. 1 The Single Mind (focus)

CH. 2 The Submissive Mind (humility)

CH. 3 The Spiritual Mind (citizenship)

CH. 4 The Secure Mind (peace)

KEY WORDS (from sermon titles): Increase, Power, Community, Humility, Fulfillment, Friendship, Fellowship, Focus, Citizenship, Freedom, Contentment, and Celebration of... Joy

CH. 1 The Single Mind (i.e., singular lens of focus on Christ Jesus)

Because of Christ, we can have joy in all circumstances, good and bad, life and death. To live is Christ and to die is gain. It's a win-win!

▪ **1/4 “The Increase of Joy” (Phil. 1:1-11)**

“...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (vs. 6)

- God’s 3-fold work of salvation for us, in us, and through us.

▪ **1/11 “The Power of Joy” (Phil. 1:12-26)**

“For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.” (vs. 22)

- Because of Christ, it’s a win-win.

▪ **1/18 “The Community of Joy” (Phil. 1:27-30)**

“For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him.” (vs. 29)

- Philip II > Macedonian phalanx (360 A.D.) - impenetrable infantry formation (16 x 16 = 256)
 - Boot camp vs. Battlefield - Spiritual growth happens on the battlefield, not in Boot Camp, but the purpose of boot camp is to prepare us for the battlefield, so that when you’re there, your instincts will be not an alignment with the

flesh, but with the Spirit. If you're going through a hard time, God has a purpose in it, so lean in, hang on, and trust God.

CH. 2 The Submissive Mind (i.e., humble yourselves)

Joy in action looks like emptying ourselves and serving others in an attitude of humility and love, and we see this perfectly in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

- 2/1 “Philippians 1 Overview” (Snow Zoom)
- 2/8 “The Humiliation of Joy” (Phil. 2:1-11)

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.” (vs. 3)

“Christ Jesus... though He was God, made Himself nothing, became a slave, found in human likeness, and humbled Himself becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God exalted Him, gave him the name above every name, that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow and tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.” (vs. 6-11)

- 2/15 “The Fulfillment of Joy” (Phil. 2:12-18)

“Work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose.” (vs. 12b-13)

- Show up (faith) / Open up (surrender) / Look up (prayer). When you show up, it means God has already shown up.
- “The verb “work out” carries the meaning of working to the full completion, such as working a mine (getting out of the mine all the valuable ore possible) or working a field (getting the greatest harvest possible). The purpose God wants us to achieve is to maximize our fullest potential and gain the greatest yield possible.” – Warren Wiersbe

“Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, ‘children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.’ Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.” (vs. 14-15)

- We were the “crooked and warped” generation who God made “shining stars” children of God. See Earth, Wind & Fire, “Shining Star.”
- 2/22 “The Friendship of Joy” (Phil. 2:19-30)
 - Timothy and Epaphroditus

CH. 3 The Spiritual Mind (i.e., heavenly mindset)

Nothing at all compares to the joy found in knowing Jesus.

- 3/1 & 3/8 “The Fellowship of Joy” (Phil. 3:1-11)

“I put no confidence in the flesh... But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ.” (vs. 3b, 7-10a)

- GOLD MEDAL OFFENSE - Scott Hamilton shared that, after coming to faith in Christ, his gold medals became an offense to him. He kept them in the bottom of his underwear drawer and eventually gave them away.
- KNOWING CHRIST IN THE FELLOWSHIP OF SUFFERINGS - “Suffering is not a matter of what God is doing and why. I think the whole purpose of it is to press us up against the Lord Jesus, to hear His heartbeat, and to identify with Him in His sufferings. It’s not about what suffering does for me. It’s about knowing Jesus better. God bless the pain. What a harsh but sweet mercy, because it has helped me just... love Him.” - Joni Eareckson Tada

▪ **3/15 “The Focus of Joy” (Phil. 3:12-16)**

“One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” (vs. 13b-14)

- Braden Saams: “How did you overcome the obstacles you’ve faced and end up doing so good in wrestling?” Jude Pruitt: “I realized that whether I win or lose, my parents are still gonna love me. So, I was free to wrestle my heart out, no matter what.”
- You can take hold of the prize (of knowing Jesus) because Jesus has taken hold of you. And once Jesus takes hold of you, He will never let you go.

▪ **3/22 “Citizens of Joy” (Phil. 3:17-21)**

“Their mind is set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven.” (vs. 19b-20a)

CH. 4 The Secure Mind (i.e., the peace of God is our security)

Don’t let the hard things of life steal your joy. Find your joy again and again in Christ Jesus. When you do, the joy of Jesus will shine in you in such a way that people around you (including those you least expect) will be attracted to and experience the joy of Jesus in ways that you never saw coming.

▪ **4/12 “The Freedom of Joy” (Phil. 4:1-9)**

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your

**hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
(vs. 4, 6-7)**

- *“Worry is not believing God will get it right, and bitterness is believing God got it wrong.” – Tim Keller*

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” (vs. 8)

- *“Right thinking is the result of daily meditation on the Word of God... It’s one thing to ‘learn’ a truth. It’s quite another to ‘receive’ it inwardly and make it a part of your soul and spirit.” – Warren Wiersbe*

▪ **4/19 “The Contentment of Joy” (Phil. 4:10-20)**

“I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (vs. 12b-13)

- Philippians 4:13 may be one of the most misunderstood scripture passages in the Bible. It’s often used in such a way that says, “Because of Jesus, I can be a superhero!” But what Paul is actually saying here is that through Christ’s strength, we can be content in any and every situation of life, and we can do whatever it is that God is calling us to do.
- *“Don’t worry, ‘bout a thing. ‘Cause every little thing gonna be alright.” - Bob Marley*

▪ **4/26 “The Celebration of Joy” (Phil. 4:21-23)**

Greet all God’s people in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are with me send greetings. All God’s people here send you greetings, especially those who belong to Caesar’s household.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. (vs. 21-23)

TRANSITION TO COMMUNION

We’re going to conclude this series in Philippians with a “Celebration of Joy” at The Table with elements that are common whenever there’s a celebration... food and drink.

This is The Table of our Lord Jesus Christ. The elements are bread and wine, representing His body and blood given for us. The invitation is extended to all who are a part of the family of God. This is the Thanksgiving meal of the Christian faith!

The purpose of this Table is ***“To remember Jesus together, in a celebration of joy.”***

This Table represents a lot of things – love, suffering, relationship, redemption, salvation, etc. This Table also represents JOY, and **“There is nothing like the joy, gladness and rejoicing that follow total forgiveness**. Because of everything represented at this Table (in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus), we have total forgiveness, restored relationship, and eternal joy.

Jesus calls us right now to “enter into His joy” by coming to this Table, His Table, in which He offers to us His body and blood.

Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

by Trevor Francis (1875)

*Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me!
Underneath me, all around me
Is the current of His love
Leading onward, leading homeward
To His glorious rest above.*

This Table is a foreshadowing of what is to come... glorious rest above, entering into the Master’s joy (Matt. 25:23). *“The prospect (destiny) of the righteous is joy.”* – Proverbs 10:28

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS

THE JOY: “When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, **“I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.** For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.” - Luke 22:14-16

THE BREAD: “And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” - Luke 22:19

THE CUP: In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.” - Luke 22:20