



LIFE GROUPS

THIS IS MY BIBLE A BLUEPRINT FOR JOY- PHILIPPIANS LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GETTING STARTED

1. Discuss the differences between joy and happiness.
2. Discuss a time when you've been able to experience joy even in the midst of difficult circumstances.

DIGGING DEEPER

Understanding Paul's circumstances is key to understanding the context of this letter. Paul was arrested while in Jerusalem. As a Roman citizen, Paul had the right to appeal his conviction before Caesar himself in Rome. As a result, Paul is transported to Rome, chained to a Roman guard 24/7. During his house arrest, Paul penned four letters (Philippians, Colossians, Philemon, Ephesians) that are known as the "prison letters."

1. Even though Paul is under house arrest and chained to a Roman guard, his attitude and perspective is still positive. Read Philippians 1:12-14 and discuss Paul's mindset. What good was coming out of his imprisonment?
2. Paul gives us a glimpse into his thoughts on death in 1:20-25. What was the conflict Paul wrestled with? What was the purpose of his life?
3. Read Philippians 1:6, 1:11. How would these verses have been an encouragement to the church in Philippi?
4. In Philippians chapter 2, Paul encourages the believers to follow the example of Christ in their lives. What are the attributes that Paul encourages them to display (2:1-11)?
5. Paul encourages the Philippians to shine like stars in a dark world (2:12-18). What are some practical ways we can be lights in our community?

6. After talking about his past (3:1-11), Paul came to the conclusion that what he prioritized in the past was a waste of time. However, instead of allowing his past failures to hold him back, Paul made a decision to press on (3:12-14). In what ways can this be an encouragement to us?
7. In Philippians chapter 4, Paul gives us some incredible examples of how to have joy even in the midst of difficulties. Read 4:4-9 and identify as many of these examples as you can. How can we apply each of these in our daily lives?
8. At the end of this letter, Paul gives us one of the most famous verses in all of the Bible. Read Philippians 4:13 and discuss what this means to you in your life and how you can apply it to your life.

APPLYING THE MESSAGE

1. What seems to consistently threaten your joy?
2. In Philippians 4:6, Paul encourages us to “worry about nothing and pray about everything.” What are some things you should stop worrying about and hand over to God instead?