

A pair of bright yellow rubber boots is shown from the mid-calf down, stepping into a dark, reflective puddle. A large, energetic splash of water is captured mid-air, with numerous droplets frozen in time. The boots are reflected in the dark water below. The overall scene is dynamic and celebratory, with a focus on the vibrant yellow of the boots against the dark, splashing water.

Philippians

Finding Joy...

Right Where You Are

God's Purpose in Your Problems

¹² I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel,

Philippians 1:12-18

God's Purpose in Your Problems

Lesson 1: God has many different purposes for allowing suffering and trials in our lives.

¹² I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel,

God's Purpose in Your Problems

¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.

Philippians 1:12-18

God's Purpose in Your Problems

Lesson 2: Time in suffering matters; it is never wasted or ignored by God.

¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.

God's Purpose in Your Problems

Philippians 4:22 *All the saints greet you,
especially those of Caesar's household.*

Philippians 1:12-18

God's Purpose in Your Problems

Lesson 3: Perspectives and attitudes are contagious.

¹⁴ And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

God's Purpose in Your Problems

¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will.

¹⁶ The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.

¹⁷ The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment.

God's Purpose in Your Problems

¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice,

God's Purpose in Your Problems

1. God has many different purposes for allowing suffering and trials in our lives.
2. Time in suffering matters; it is never wasted or ignored by God.
3. Perspectives and attitudes are contagious.
4. The gospel transcends circumstances.

God's Purpose in Your Problems

Romans 8:28

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Philippians 1:12-18

Continuing the Discussion

- Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
- Think of the top few difficulties in your life right now. How might they be used by God to further His kingdom?
- Who do you know of that is an example like Paul, who challenges and encourages you?