

Philippians: Finding Joy Right Where You Are!

Key Scriptures

Phil. 3:9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, ¹¹ if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Key Point

The Christian life is about knowing Jesus in a deeper way, so His power and presence influence every thing we do.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking. Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- Is there a hobby you are passionate about? How long have you been doing it?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- How would you describe Paul's passion for knowing Christ after 30 years?
- On a scale of 1-10, how would you describe your current passion for knowing and experiencing Christ?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Why do you think suffering is so essential for growth? How has God used past difficulties in your life to change your heart and attitude?
- What things do you need to "forget" because they bring condemnation or detract you from reaching forward to those things which are ahead?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Ask God to help you know Jesus Christ in a greater way every day, to live knowing His resurrection power is in you.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week!

- Is there a specific action step of faith you sense God would have you take to mature in Christ?