How do verses 12-14 reinforce the Apostle's message in verses 3-7?

What two groups of people did Paul say were proclaiming Christ?

List various reasons Christ is proclaimed today.

What are the pros and the cons of those various reasons?

How does this concept of Christ being proclaimed regardless of the reason help your response toward other ministries in Bismarck/ Mandan?

How does the Apostle keep the main thing the main thing as he writes to the Philippian church? (v. 18)

What is the reason Paul rejoiced? (v. 18)

How can our church proclaim Christ more boldly in our city?

GOSPEL CONNECTION

"Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.
"3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures," 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

APPLICATION

Where do you spend time each week that God is giving you opportunity to share your faith?

With whom will you proclaim the gospel this week? When?

MEMORY VERSE

"preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction." 2 Timothy 4:2

Sermon-Based Study Guide

// October 18, 2026 //

Sermon Series:
A Life of Joy

Paul Ewing
Century Baptist Church

Joy in Proclamation

Philippians 1:12-18

1. Intro — "The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing." Stephen Covey

2. In Season and Out vv. 12-14

3. Message Over Motives vv. 15-18a

Sermon available at centurybaptist.org/watch/

Community Life Group Sermon-Based Study

// October 18, 2026 //

Our desire and goal is for all who call Century Baptist their church home to be involved in a Community Life Group or Bible study. We believe one of the best ways to be fed and exhorted in our faith is to interact with the Sunday sermon. This guide is designed to facilitate interaction by diving into the Sunday message through the study of Scripture together. If you are not in a group, we encourage you to take the step of involvement in community around your faith and the pursuit of faith in Jesus. While this study guide can be used individually, the greatest benefit of growth comes when people are interacting with each other around Biblical truth.

Contact Pastor Paul Herr at 701.223.0478 to learn more about sermon-based community life groups, and leading or hosting a group.

OPENING UP

Tell of a time the situation of another increased your courage to say or do something.

INTRODUCTION to *A Life of Joy* series

The letter to the church in Philippi is one of four written from prison (this time he is under house arrest in Rome) by the Apostle Paul. Founded on his second missionary journey, the Philippian Church was the first church established by Paul in Europe(Acts 16). This letter is a thank you for the kindness and generosity shown by the saints there. "It's usually difficult to capture the essence of a letter in one word, but in the case of Philippians, that one word is *joy*. Paul didn't write to answer any profound theological question, solve some knotty practical problem, or deal with a specific sin. Instead, he wrote to express and encourage joy. In a way, the book of Philippians is a showcase of joy. Like a treasure on display in the center of a gallery, joy can be examined from several angles to better appreciate its brilliance. Each of the four chapters reveals one of the distinct facets of that joy."
[Swindoll, C. R. (2017). Philippians, Colossians, Philemon (Vol. 9, p. 11). Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.]

READ Philippians 1:12-18a

What was one point or statement from the message that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

What does the Apostle Paul want the Philippian saints to know?

What is Paul referencing when he mentions what has happened to him in verse 12?

What is meant by *served to advance the gospel*?

How would Paul's imprisonment have become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and everyone else?

Of whom is Paul referring when he writes *and to all the rest* (v. 13)?

Who were the Imperial Guard also known as the Praetorian Guard?

As Paul was literally chained to a soldier at all times, how might this afford him the possibility to share God's Good News?

If the soldier being chained to Paul was changed every four hours as is commonly believed, think about the number of soldiers that would spend time with Paul over his two years of imprisonment. How might the sheer volume of people help or hinder sharing the Good News of Jesus?

Who does Paul say had been emboldened to speak the word without fear?

Why would they have more confidence, be more bold, and have more courage in sharing the gospel?

What helps to embolden you to share the word of God, specifically the Gospel message with others more freely?

Do you have or feel fear when it comes to sharing your faith in Jesus? Why or why not?