How does Paul's attitude about proclaiming the Gospel regardless of the circumstances challenge your perspective on sharing your faith?

How can you find joy in your current circumstances through focusing on sharing the Gospel as top priority?

Recall a time when you faced adversity. How does Paul's example of rejoicing in the spread of the gospel encourage you in similar situations?

Paul had a deep affection for the Philippians. How can you, individually, and us, collectively, cultivate that same affection in our church family?

GOSPEL CONNECTION

"And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; [4] and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; [5] and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. [6] For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. [7] For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. [8] But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. [9] Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. [10] For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. [11] And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation." Romans 5:3-11

APPLICATION

Whom has God put in the path of your life that needs to hear the Gospel? How and when will you proclaim the Gospel to him/her?

MEMORY VERSE

"But I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better; [24] yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake." Philippians 1:23-24

Sermon-Based Study Guide

// October 25, 2026 //

Sermon Series:
A Life of Joy

Paul Herr
Century Baptist Church

It's a Win, Win

Philippians 1:18b-26

Whether I live or die, I win…either to serve Jesus while on earth, or to be in the presence of Jesus in heaven for all eternity.

Sermon available at centurybaptist.org/watch/

Community Life Group Sermon-Based Study

// October 25, 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

What makes you willing to be inconvenienced by another person?

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 1:18b-26

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

Why does Paul say he will rejoice (v. 18)?

What does his emphasis of restating his rejoicing tell us (v. 18)?

The pronoun *this* refers to what in verse 19?

Paul refers to *my deliverance*. What are the possibilities of that deliverance?

Why is Paul certain of his deliverance?

How did the Apostle Paul expect to be delivered?

What is the internal dilemma for the Apostle in verses 21-24?

What are Paul's convictions about living and dying?

How is continuing to live equal to Christ (v. 21)?

How is dying gain for Paul and the believer in Jesus (v. 21)?

What was the Apostle convinced of in verses 25-26?

In a difficult situation, Paul knew he could count on the Philippian Church. Who can you count on in tough times? Why? How?

Paul's main purpose in living was to glorify Christ. How do you view the purpose of your life?

How do your actions and priorities reflect how you view your life's purpose?

What would the Apostle Paul say to you regarding the purpose of your life, and how do you think he would say it?