

Philippians: Joy in Christ (Week 3)

3) Joy in Christ through Perspective (1:19-30)

Main Idea: The point of life is Jesus, to worship Him and proclaim His glory. To die is gain because we will be in the presence of the Lord. It is with this perspective that we can live life in a manner worthy of the Gospel through the imparted righteousness of Christ.

Introduction:

1. Life is all about choices. What are some ways we as individuals and families make choices? *There are many ways we can use to make choices. Some are biblical, some are not. Make a list together as a family and discuss the positives and negatives of each.*
2. What does the word “perspective” mean? What should the perspective of the believer be in making choices? *Perspective means point of view, viewing things in their level of importance. The perspective of the believer should be to value what the Bible says and how the Holy Spirit leads. Discuss why using the Bible and the Spirit is better than other ways to make choices.*

Discussion:

3. To you, what do you think Paul means when he says, “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain”?
4. Parents, describe for your children ways we can worship God each day. Then create a list of new ways to worship God, especially that relate to the age of your children. *Focus not only on ways we worship God at church, but at home, school, in our quiet times, etc. Be creative.*
5. What do you think heaven will be like? *Refer to Revelation 21 as needed for assistance.*
6. How can we be sure that heaven even exists? *God’s Word assures us of the existence of heaven. It also tells us the way to get there. Refer to John 14:1-6 as needed for assistance.*
7. Review again what the Gospel is. *Jesus is God who lived without sin, died on a cross for our sins, was buried, and resurrected three days later.*
8. What do you think it means to “live your life in a manner worthy of the Gospel”? It means living our lives in a way that is pleasing to God. He has given His Son for us, and we are called to be holy (set apart) and righteous (results of a relationship with Christ; becoming more like Him).
9. Parents, describe some specific situations you have faced where living in a manner worthy of the Gospel was the right response. Encourage your children to think of situations they face as well. *For example, mommy was sick and the dishes needed to be done, so I did them for her. Or someone said something mean to me on the playground yesterday. Instead of saying something mean back, or hitting them, I was nice to them, showing the love of Christ.*

Reflection and Prayer: Take time this week to pray for the following:

- Thankfulness that God has given us Jesus Christ
- The ability to live our lives consistent with the Bible
- To see more ways to worship God in what we do everyday
- Praise to God for preparing heaven for all believers