



INTRODUCTION

In Philippians 1: 18-26, Paul reveals a kind of joy and freedom that cannot be destroyed by suffering, uncertainty, or even death. Christ had become Paul's definition of life, and therefore circumstances no longer had control over his joy, peace, or purpose.

INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore, please use it as a tool that best fits the needs of your small group.

OPENING DISCUSSION

- Was there a particular verse, or illustration from this passage that stood out to you?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?

REVIEW

- Have someone read **Philippians 1:18c-26**.
- How does Paul demonstrate freedom from fear in this passage?
- According to vv. 19-20, what gives Paul confidence and courage?
- In what ways do we see Paul valuing both fruitful ministry, and eternal reward?
- Why does Paul describe being with Christ, as "far better"?

APPLICATION

- What circumstances in your life most often threaten your peace and joy?
- What are some things that you have observed, by which people commonly define life, besides Christ?
- Have you ever experienced a trial, that later you saw how God used to make you more like Christ?
- How should the reality of heaven affect the way Christians live today?
- Is there an area of fear or self-preservation where you need greater courage to honor Christ?

PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- Spend extra time in prayer giving thanks for one another tonight.
- Are there any other prayer needs?