



Our Goal is the Gospel

Discussion Guide | Sept. 27th, 2020

Before you begin, please read Philippians 1:12-18

1. Share about a time when some larger goal (or bigger purpose) has helped you press on through uncomfortable or difficult circumstances.
2. What observations or statements in Philippians 1:12-18 support the conclusion that Paul was facing tough circumstances? What were these tough circumstances?
3. Even in the midst of these difficult circumstances, what was Paul's focus? Support your response(s) with verses from Philippians 1.
4. Work as a group to develop a short summary of the gospel. What is it about the gospel that makes it so worthwhile / important in Paul's mind – more important than his personal comfort and what others think about him?
5. Are there ways you've seen the gospel advance through difficult circumstances before? Share anything that comes to mind with the group.
6. What difficult circumstances are you facing in your life right now? Are there ways that come to your mind regarding how God might be able to use this to advance the gospel? Explain.
7. In Philippians 1:18, Paul mentions the word "rejoice." What does the Bible mean by the word "joy"? How is this different than what the world thinks about this word?
8. Imagine that you're Paul explaining what he means in Philippians 1:18. What do you think he would say, for WHY he finds joy in the advance of the gospel...even in the midst of tough circumstances?
9. How does Paul's attitude of joy here inspire or challenge you?
10. The gospel doesn't only advance around us. The gospel should also "advance" within us. In your own words, explain what this means and why this is so important.
11. What is one practical take-away you're leaving with from Philippians 1:12-18? What can you do this week to grow in this area?
12. **"Press On" Challenge** – Choose one difficult circumstance you're facing in life. How might this difficult reality be an opportunity for gospel advance – either in your life, or through you to someone else?