

Joy

THE BOOK OF
PHILIPPIANS

Joy: The Greatest Risk

July 10th & 11th

Speaker: Pastor Mark Batterson

Scripture: Philippians 3:1-11

[Philippians 2:30](#)

The Greek word translated RISK is paraboleuomei. It's a gambling term. It's pushing all of your chips to the middle of the table and going ALL IN.

Epaphroditus may have risked his life, but when was the last time we risked...

- rejection by sharing your faith?
- failure to pursue a God given dream?
- reputation by refusing to compromise convictions?

Three things about Risk

1. Faith is spelled R-I-S-K
2. Our greatest regrets are INACTION REGRETS
3. Every risk has a RIPPLE EFFECT

We are called to stand in the gap as RISK TAKERS

Cost-benefit analysis on risk: you can't just count the ACTUAL COST. You have to count the OPPORTUNITY COST. You can't just think PRESENT-TENSE. You have to think FUTURE-TENSE.

You never quit on things PRESENT-TENSE, you always quit on things FUTURE-TENSE

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." - [Philippians 4:13](#)

"He who began a good work will carry it to completion." - [Philippians 1:6](#)

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God and the peace of God which passes all understanding will guard your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus." - [Philippians 4:6-7](#)

Epaphroditus doesn't just take a risk, he sets us up thousands of years later.

Legacy is not what we accomplish, **legacy** is what others accomplish because of us.

“There are people waiting on the other side of the risk that God has called you to make.” - Pastor Mark Batterson

One risk can change the trajectory of your life.

What risk do you need to take? What are you waiting for?

[Philippians 3:1-11](#)

You have to dig down if you want to build up.

There is a difference between generic joy and the joy of the Lord.

The Joy of the Lord is a derivative of right relationship with God.

Song: [Joy](#)

Anytime we add anything to the Gospel we are actually subtracting from it.

Religion is spelled DO - it's all about what you can DO for God.

Christianity is spelled DONE - it's about what Christ DID for us.

We live in a culture that celebrates self reliance and self sufficiency but Paul flips the script and says we rely on Christ and Christ alone for our salvation. It is not salvation by works, it is salvation by grace.

"Your WORST DAYS are never so bad that you are BEYOND THE REACH of God's grace and your BEST DAYS are never so good that you are BEYOND THE NEED of God's grace. EVERY DAY should be a day of relating to God on the basis of His grace alone." - Jerry Bridges

Question: What is the LOCUS of your confidence?

"Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him." - [Romans 12:1, The Message](#)

Everything - Jesus = Nothing

Jesus + Nothing = Everything

"The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever" - First Tenet of Westminster Catechism

Closing question: How much are you enjoying your relationship with God?

The invitation today is to step into a relationship with Jesus, to follow Him, and to experience a joy down deep in your soul.

A PRAYER to PRAY: Our Father in Heaven let us experience that joy that only comes from right relationship with You. Let us take RISK that comes from FAITH. Give us the wisdom to leave a legacy that has less to do with us and more to do with what will happen for generations to come. Show us that our confidence is based on Your Character and not our abilities. Teach us to love without judgement, to give without expectation of anything in return, to accept with grace, and to nurture with courage. Let us be all we can be in You, so that You can fully live in us. We pray this all in Jesus' name amen.

For more info about following Jesus, go to ncc.re/followJesus

---To dig deeper:

- Sermon Discussion Guide: ncc.re/discuss
- NCC Daily: national.cc/daily

---ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- NCC Online Connect Live: 10:15am EST, Sunday, July 11 at ncc.re/connectlive
- Sign up for a Group: ncc.re/groups
- Upper Zoom (Tu, We, Th at 7:14am): ncc.re/upperzoom