

Joy

THE BOOK OF
PHILIPPIANS

Joy: Living Inside Out

June 19th & 20th

Speaker: Dr. Mark Batterson

Scripture: Philippians 1:19

Series Overview

Joy. It's not getting what you want. It's appreciating what you have. Joy isn't always the easiest choice or the obvious choice, but joy is a choice. The Apostle Paul said, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again, rejoice!" And his life is louder than his words. Paul writes his letter to the Philippians from a prison cell. You can choose joy anywhere, anytime, anyway!

Series Discussion Questions

How do you choose joy?

Message Overview

Are you living outside in? Or are you living inside out? In a culture that is divided by racial tension and political polarization, we stand in the gap as peacemakers, grace givers, truth tellers, tone setters, and joy bringers. We love those who hate us, pray for those who persecute us, and bless those who curse us. And when we do, it provokes questions for which the gospel is the answer. We don't take our cues from trending hashtags. We live according to our biblical convictions. We don't reflect the attitudes and opinions of those around us. We shift the atmosphere with faith, hope, and love.

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

What is a **BOLD** prayer that you are presenting before God?

Read Philippians 1:19. In this passage, Paul was confident that God was going to deliver him from the prison (negative circumstance) that he was in. **Share a story of a time when God turned something that you thought was negative into something positive.**

Following Pastor Mark's story of how God miraculously healed him of asthma, he presented these three questions: (Take some time with your group to answer the following)

- **Is there a God-given DREAM you've given up on?**
- **Is there a DIFFICULT SITUATION you've simply submitted to?**
- **Is there a MIRACLE you've stopped believing, stopped praying for?**

Philippians 1:27 states: "Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ." **What are some ways that you can conduct yourself in a manner that represents the gospel of Christ?**

Practical Application

- Take some time and allow the Holy Spirit to highlight a person that you know. Pray a bold prayer over that person this week.
- Find a daily rhythm of connecting with God and with one another by committing to NCC daily, a five-minute audio podcast to help you walk verse-by-verse through the book of Phillipians. Each day we'll be guided through the practice of listening, reflecting, responding, and resting in the Word of God — allowing space for the Holy Spirit to cultivate joy in unique and personal ways. **Subscribe [here!](#)**
- Climb the stairs to the [Upper Zoom](#) each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. We'll come together as a community to start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. **Register at ncc.re/UpperZoom.**