

Joy

THE BOOK OF
PHILIPPIANS

Joy: The Greatest Risk

July 10th & 11th

Speaker: Dr. Mark Batterson

Scripture: Philippians 3:1

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

Playing it safe seems safe, but the greatest risk is taking no risks at all. At some point, you have to risk rejection, risk failure, risk your reputation. Simply put, faith is spelled RISK. What risk do you need to take? What are you waiting for? Risk or regret? The choice is yours!

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

What RISK do you need to take?

Read Philippians 2:30. In this passage, Paul is commending Epaphroditus for risking his life and embarking on a 787 mile journey for the Kingdom of God. A journey of this magnitude was very uncommon during this period of time. **What God-sized goal do you need to go after? What is hindering you from taking the risk?**

Read Philippians 3:1. In this passage, Paul is telling us the importance of placing our faith on a solid foundation. **What are some ways that you can safeguard your faith? Who holds you accountable?**

Pastor Mark asked a series of questions rooted from this primary question: **“How much are you enjoying **YOUR** relationship with God?”**

- Does your relationship with God feel like a chore?
- Is your relationship with God based out of fear of joy?
- Is God first in your life?
- Are you trying to earn your salvation through your good works?

Take some time to think about these questions and discuss them with your group.

Practical Application

- **Exercise your faith this week and take a RISK.**
- 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.**