

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### Joy in Others (Genuine Joy #2)

Week of May 5, 2019

While this Discussion Guide is intended for use in a Riverwood Growth Group, it can be used personally as well. To get the most from these questions, we suggest you take 10-15 minutes to read, think, and pray through this Guide before participating in your Growth Group. The point of this guide is to not just "get through the questions" (there's no quiz at the end!) but to pursue Jesus and grow spiritually.

### ICEBREAKER (Optional)

Share about one of the greatest days in your life and what made it so great.

### DISCUSSION

#### Read Philippians 1:1-8

1. Paul helped pastor the Philippian church when it started and began to grow. Based on this passage, how would you say Paul feels toward his brothers and sisters in Christ in Philippi?
2. What does Paul mean by commending his readers for their "partnership in the gospel" (vv. 3-5), and why does this give him joy? Likewise, how might we be able to experience this same joy with each other in our local church?
3. In verse 6, what does Paul mean when he says that "[God] who began a good work in you [believers] will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (ESV)?



#### Read Philippians 1:9-11

4. Paul wanted the Philippian Christians' love to "abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment" (v. 9). Why were these things so important to Paul? And how could this help them "approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ" (v. 10)?
5. What do you think it means to be "filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Christ" (v. 11)?

### MAKING IT PERSONAL

6. In his message, Erin talked about finding genuine joy by partnering with other Jesus-followers for the sake of the Gospel. What does this currently look like in your life? If you aren't partnering with other Jesus-followers, what is God prompting you to change?

### MEMORY VERSE

*"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:6)*

### PRAYER

Close in prayer, praising God for the brothers and sisters in Christ whom He has placed in your life. Ask Him to continually increase your joy in Jesus through others, as well as to make His presence evident and His grace known in every area of your life.

