

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### Joy in the Gospel (Genuine Joy #4)

Week of May 19, 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)

What was one of your most favorite days this past year?

### DISCUSSION

#### Read Philippians 1:18-26

1. Paul appeared confident he would be delivered from prison, but he knew this deliverance might occur through his death. Despite this sobering truth, Paul has joy. How did Paul find joy despite knowing he might die in prison?

#### Read Philippians 1:27

2. a. What does it mean to "let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ"?



b. Paul is NOT saying in this passage "prove you are worthy to be accepted by Jesus." Instead, he is saying "live your life in a manner that reveals you have been changed by the gospel." If you are a Jesus follower, what are things in your life that reveal you have been changed by the gospel?

c. Paul hopes that his readers will be "standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel." In the U.S. we tend to have an individualistic form of Christianity. What could it look like for you to live out your faith *together* with other Jesus followers?

### MAKING IT PERSONAL

#### Read Philippians 1:29-30

3. What does it look like for you to believe in Christ and also suffer for His sake? What might God be calling you to give up for His glory?

### MEMORY VERSE

*"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (Philippians 1:21)*

### PRAYER

Close in prayer. Ask God to help live out your faith together with other Jesus followers. Ask Him to reveal what He might be calling you to give up for His glory.

