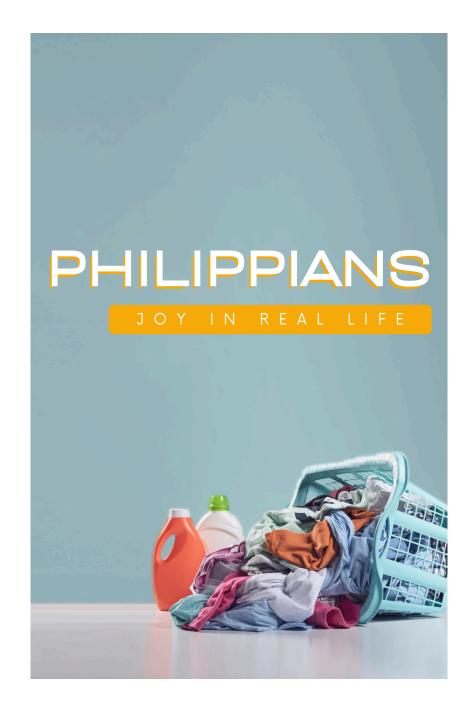
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#### Philippians: Joy In Real Life

Series Outline

1/7/24	_	Phil 1:1-4
1/14/24	_	Phil 1:4-11
1/21/24	_	Phil 1:9-14
1/28/24	_	Phil 1:15-30
2/4/24	_	Phil 2:1-18
2/11/24	_	Phil 2:19-30
2/18/24	_	Phil 3:1-9
2/25/24	_	Phil 3:10-16
3/3/24	_	Phil 3:17-21
3/10/24	_	Phil 4:1-3
3/17/24	_	Phil 4:4-9
3/24/24	_	Phil 4:10-23

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# Philippians 1:1-4 Joy in Real Life

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

- 1. What is the difference between happiness and joy?
- 2. How could Paul be so joyful in jail?
- 3. Take some time to write down a list of names of people who have helped shape and mold your faith in Jesus. Then spend about 5-10 minutes in prayer thanking God for them and pray for each one of them by name.
- 4. What is one area of your life that you'd like to grow in joy in throughout this study of Philippians?

- On Paul's second missionary journey, he and his companions planted the church in Philippi (Acts 16:6-40). This was the first church established on the European continent. Paul wrote this letter during his imprisonment in Rome around 61 AD.
- This book is about joy. The words joy or rejoice appear about 16 times throughout the book.

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# Philippians 1:4-11 Joy In Relationships

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

- 1. Who have been your closest friends over the years? Who is closest to you currently?
- 2. Have you ever partnered with someone in ministry? How did that change how you felt about them?

- 3. How have you lived out or prayed this prayer in vs 9-11?
- 4. What are some things that you could pray for our church and leaders? Take 5-10min to pray for them.

5. Our church has decided to partner with Westview and other churches to pray for and support a new church plant in Riley. Who do you know who could benefit from this new expression of the church in Riley? Commit a few min to pray for them and the Riley Church plant right now.

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### Philippians 1:9-14 Joy In Suffering

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

1. Have you ever gone through anything difficult and thought, "Why has this happened? What good can come of this?" Describe what happened.

4. Who has God put in my path that needs to hear about the saving grace of Jesus? Who am I praying for that needs to know Him? Take a few min to pray for them and for an opportunity to share with them.

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2. Have you allowed God to take that thing(s) and use it for His glory? How so?

3. How have you been an encouragement to other believers and/or been encouraged to be more bold and confident in sharing your faith?

# Philippians 1:15-30 Joy in an Eternal Perspective

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

1. Have you ever been ashamed or afraid to talk about God with others? Give a recent example.

4. Verse 27 says, "Whatever happens, conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the gospel". How have you tried to do this and what happened? Or, what could this look like? Give an example.

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2. How have you experienced hurt from people in the church or claiming Christ? What have you done with that pain?

3. What did Paul mean in verse 21, "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."?

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#### Philippians 2:1-18 Joy in Humility

4. What did Paul mean by "work out your salvation"

in 2:12-13?

Joy in Humility	5. Is it even possible to follow 2:14, "Do everything without arguing or complaining"? What would have
Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.	to happen for this to play out in real life?
1. How can we be one in spirit and purpose? (2:1-4)	
2. What is the closest you have come to being in a fellowship that cared for one another like Paul describes here in 2:1-4?	Notes:
3. What is Christ's attitude in 2:5-8?	

## Philippians 2:19-30 Joy in Friendship

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

- 1. How is Timothy different from anyone else Paul has worked with? (2:19-22)
- 2. Just as a skilled workman trains an apprentice, Paul was preparing Timothy to carry on the ministry in his absence. Who are you apprenticing for God's work?

- 3. How did the Philippian church support Paul and the advancement of the gospel? (2:25-30)
- 4. Who are the people in your life who have most shaped your own self-image by their praise or lack of praise? Do you give praise easily...or do you find this hard to do?

5. What friendship in your life could you invest more deeply in? What's a specific next step you could take toward that?

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### Philippians 3:1-9 Joy in Grace

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

- 1. Do you get tired of being the one trying in your relationships? (3:1)
- 2. Those whom Paul is talking about believe that there are prerequisites to receiving salvation. How have you (or someone you know) ever thought this way? (3:2-3)
- 3. How do you put confidence in your flesh (your own efforts)? Is it a bad thing to be self confident? (3:4-6)
- 4. Vs 3:8 I consider everything a loss compared to knowing Christ. Why would someone say that?

- 5. What does it mean to KNOW Christ? (3:7-10)
- 6. As God looks at you right now, what do you think is the look on His face?

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# Philippians 3:10-16 Living with Purpose (Resurrection)

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

1. What are you willing to give up in order to know Christ (plans, pleasures, a few minutes each day to spend in prayer and Bible study, etc)? (3:10)

2. What is our earthly example of what we see in verses 10-11 (becoming like Christ in His death & resurrection)?

3. What is the goal Paul is speaking of in verses 12-14?

4. If you compared your life in Christ to a track race, where would you be? Sitting on the sidelines? Warming up? At the starting line? Striding forward? Digging deep to give your all?

5. How do verses 12-14 show us how we pursue sanctification?

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# Philippians 3:17-21 Joy in our Heavenly Citizenship

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

1. Is it arrogant for Paul to tell the Philippian believers to follow his example? Why or Why not? (3:17)

2. Who do you look up to in the faith? Why? What about them and the way that they live makes you

want to follow their example?

3. What kind of follower would a new Christian become if they imitated you?

4. What does it mean that our citizenship is in Heaven? (3:20)

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# Philippians 4:1-3 Joy in the Midst of Conflict

5. How could you help bring peace and unity within the body of Christ? (4:3)

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

1. How do you stand firm in the Lord? (4:1)

2. Why would Paul call out these two ladies? How might their disagreement affect the church? (4:2)

3. When we bicker and fight about things in the body of Christ, how does that affect our witness and our unity? (4:2)

4. Do you need to reconcile with someone today?

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### Philippians 4:4-9 Joy & Peace in Anxiety

4. Phil 4:8-9 - What does Paul mean by his use of "whatever" in these verses?

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

1. Phil 4:4 - Rejoice always! Is this even possible? Why do you think so many people in the church struggle to be joyful?

5. Jesus has already won the battle. How could you put into practice more fully believing that in your daily life?

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2. Several times in this letter, Paul urged the Philippians to be joyful, probably because they needed to hear it. How do you need to hear this same message today?

3. What does Paul tell us to do when we experience anxiety? (4:6-7)

# Philippians 4:10-19 Joy in Giving & Receiving

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

1. What do you look back on as the happiest days of your life? What was it that made them so great?

4. Do you tend to trust that God will provide or do you feel like you have to do it all yourself (or at least you have to do your part)?

2. Have you learned to be content no matter what? When do you notice this playing out? (4:10-13)

3. What do you learn from Paul in this passage about both contentment and giving and receiving help from others?


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# Philippians 4:20-23 Glory to God: Philippians Reflections

Read this section at least twice this week. Pray and allow God to speak to you, looking at yourself in light of what you read.

1. What is one thing that has stuck with you throughout this study of Philippians and why?

2. What are some of the principles taught throughout our study that you are implementing or are going to implement in your life?

3. What's one "scary" step of faith that God is calling you to take in response to this Philippians study?

4. If you were to write a letter to Tru Community Church, like Paul wrote this to the church at Philippi, what would you say? (Write a short letter to Tru.)