

Joy

THE BOOK OF
PHILIPPIANS

Joy: Shine Brightly

July 3rd & 4th

Speaker: Pastor Heather Zempel

Scripture: Philippians 2:12-13

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

Throughout Scripture, light is used as a symbol of God's presence. It sparks life, inspires hope, and points to God's goodness, faithfulness, and beauty. God also commissioned his people to be a light to the nations. In his letter to the church at Philippi, Paul commends the believers for their obedience and commands them to continue shining brightly in the darkness of suffering and in the confusion of the culture.

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

What work is God doing within you during this season?

Read Philippians 2:12-13. **Have you ever fallen into the trap of WORKING FOR your salvation, instead of WORKING OUT your salvation?**

Philippians 12:29-30 tells us to **HONOR** people who take risks for the sake of Jesus. **Who do you HONOR because of the impact that they have or had in your life?**

How do people describe you? For example, would they say that you: Shine brightly, show up, encourage peace?

Pastor Heather closed her message with these two questions:

- **Whose life does your light shine on?**
- **To what generation will your light be felt?**

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

Practical Application

- Take some time this week to ask God how he wants you to shine your light on this generation and ones to come.
- 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.**