



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

"Advancing the Gospel"

Philippians 1:12-18

SERMON NOTES

Record your insights & observations from this week's sermon.

FOR MORE ON THIS SERMON SERIES:
To Live is Christ, To Die is Gain by Matt Chandler

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) In *Philippians*, Paul uses the word gospel 9 times. Read *Philippians 2:12-18*. How does Paul keep the good news of Jesus Christ the main thing in his life? What can you learn from this?
- 2) Despite being in prison for 2 years, Paul used his obstacle as an opportunity to share the gospel with others. How can you use your current circumstances as an opportunity to advance the gospel of Jesus?
- 3) *Matthew 11:12* says, "From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it (NIV)." Despite persecution and opposition to Christianity, spiritual revivals come and the good news of Jesus advances throughout the world. How do you see God moving in the face of persecution in our society?
- 4) Sometimes the sacrifice of one can lead to the courage of many others. How does this play out in *Philippians 2:12-15*? Can you think of an example of one person sacrificing for the greater good? Discuss.
- 5) In *Philippians 2:15, 17-18*, there were preachers who were preaching the gospel out of rivalry and selfish ambition; however, God was able to still bring forth the message despite their mixed motives. What does this say about the sovereignty of God?
- 6) Just as the preachers with mixed motives compared themselves with Paul, so we do the same with each other. How can comparing ourselves to others rob us of joy?
- 7) The gospel advances when we don't care who gets the credit. How can you encourage others to help advance the good news of Jesus in this world?

FOR YOUR FAMILY - We are on Week #35 of Children's Catechism.

Please teach your children question 49.

- 1) Memorize *Philippians 1:21* – *For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*
- 2) Read *Philippians 2:12-14*. Talk with your family about how Paul was able to turn an obstacle into an opportunity for Jesus Christ. Share with each other how important it is to keep the main thing the main thing no matter what circumstance we are in.
- 3) Read *Philippians 2:15-18*. The Gospel advances when we don't care who gets the credit. Talk with your family about how to encourage other believers to use their gifts and passions to help win others to Jesus.