

Life in Color #1

Joy in Discipleship

Word

Scripture Reference

Philippians 1:1-11

Discussion Questions

1. How do you define the word *joy*?
2. True biblical joy is the assurance of happiness from a Christ-filled life looking from God's perspective. In other words, you have the assurance of happiness that comes from your relationship with Jesus Christ. It doesn't mean that you cannot have a heavy heart, but you know that whatever God allows to happen in your life is the best one given by Him who loves you. Have you ever experienced this kind of joy? Please share with the group about a difficult situation you experienced, but because of your relationship with Jesus Christ went through it with peace and joy in your heart.
3. Read Philippians 1:1-11. The Philippians first heard the gospel when Paul and his companions visited and started a church in Philippi. Paul loved this church very much. While he was in prison for spreading the gospel and couldn't visit the church personally, he wrote letters to teach and encourage them in their faith. Describe how Paul remembered the church in Philippi (v. 3-6). Discuss how Paul, being in prison at the time, could still find joy in thinking of his past disciples.
4. What do you think comes to people's minds when they think about you? Do they remember you with joy?
5. Paul yearned to see the Christians at Philippi. Their continuing growth in Christ as well as their continued partnership in the gospel gave him great joy (v. 7-8). Have you ever led someone to the Lord? How do you feel seeing them grow spiritually? Name some ways you

can help or partner with people or groups that are sharing the gospel with others.

6. Real joy lies in obedience to God, in doing what He wants. God is not impressed by your accomplishments or social standing, but in your faithfulness to become more Christ-like. Examine your heart. Is your spiritual growth more important than other "significant" things in your life? Are you joyful when you see a transformation in your life or in your family members' lives? How can you have a life that puts more value to spiritual things over worldly things?
7. Read Paul's prayer for the Philippians in verses 9-11. Paul's desire was that when the Philippian Christians stand before God, they would be blameless because they did not shame the name of Christ but honored God and gave glory to Him. How do Christians shame the name of Christ? Do your actions as a follower of Christ bring honor or shame to His name? How do you know if your actions and attitude give glory to God?

Walk

When you see joy as having a closer relationship with Christ, you will fully understand what true joy is in spite of circumstances. It doesn't come from the world; a life in color—a life of joy—is a life filled with Christ. Is your life lived for the glory of God or man? Do you glory in your accomplishments or in your faithfulness to God?

Worship & Prayer

Join the Corporate Prayer Time every Friday, 7:15-8:00pm at the Balcony

Pray for...

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| • Unity and love to overflow in GCCP. | • Grace and mercy for Pedro Dyloco; and Betty. Wisdom & strength for loved ones. |
| • Wisdom for the church to effectively reach the Chinese community. | • Peace, comfort, salvation for Lee Family. |
| • Post-operation recovery for Rev. Chhetri. | • Wisdom for ongoing preparations for the upcoming GCC Seniors Retreat. |
| • Healing for PT, Gliern Villacorta and Pros. | • Restoration of Tacloban Christian Church. |