



Studies in Philippians:
Bearing the Mark of Joy
*"The Joy of Sharing in the
Progress of the Gospel"*
Philippians 1:12-19

Sermon Proposition

We can experience the joy of sharing the gospel because of, not in spite of, our circumstances.

**Negative circumstances can serve to advance the gospel
(12-13)**

Our courage in sharing the gospel can be contagious (14)

Our motive for sharing the gospel must be love (15-18)

The most important thing (19)

Live It!

- ✓ I will partner with _____ in prayer for lost people (neighbors, coworkers, family members and friends).
- ✓ I will ask _____ to help teach me to share the gospel message.
- ✓ I will view my circumstances as opportunities for the gospel

Heavenly Father,

I ask you to begin a new work in us today knowing that you are faithful to complete every work you begin. Continue your work in us until it is completed for the glory of Christ and good of all people.

I pray that our love for each other will overflow more and more, and that we will keep on growing—understanding what really matters.

Produce in our lives the fruit of the Spirit and give us the joy of making disciples—reproducing after Christ’s-kind. In Jesus name, Amen.

Read It!

Philippians 1:12-19

Consider It!

What did Paul suggest about his present circumstances (1:12)? How did God use his situation to advance the gospel?

How did Paul think about his chains?

What never occurs in the life of the believer? Why?

How should we view our circumstances or approach the situations we face in life?

Where should a believer look to share the gospel? Explain.

What was an unusual result of Paul's chains? Explain.

What can you do to embolden your witness (Acts 4:29)?

What contrasting motives existed for sharing the gospel (1:15-17)?

Do people have wrong motives for sharing the gospel today? Explain.

Can you think of an example of how believers use good things to stir up trouble for others (i.e., pastors or church leaders)?

What does it take for a person to rejoice in the midst of difficult circumstances? Be specific.

What was Paul's expectation (1:19)? How did he expect this to happen?

How should we respond to God's word? How can we work together to know the joy of the progress of the gospel?