

Worship Discussion and Reflection Questions

Sermon Series: Rejoice! (A Study of Philippians)

Sermon: Snapshots of Faithfulness

Scripture: Philippians 2:17-30

¹⁷ Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. ²⁰ For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²² But you know Timothy's[a] proven worth, how as a son[b] with a father he has served with me in the gospel. ²³ I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

²⁵ I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. ²⁷ Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. ²⁹ So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, ³⁰ for he nearly died[c] for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

Reflection Questions:

- In what ways is it helpful to consider the lives of people to learn how to live faithfully? In what ways could a focus on other people distract us?
- In what ways do you focus on the needs of others? In what ways do you only focus on your own? In what ways might God be calling you to focus more on the interests of others?
- In what ways are you “pouring out” your life for the sake of Christ and His gospel right now? What ways of living for the gospel do you resist?
- Who has been a snapshot of faithfulness in your life? How can you honor them this week?

Guided Prayer:

Thank God for the examples of faithfulness in your life. Ask God to see how He is at work through them and in you. Ask God to show you ways that you can focus on the interests of others. Help Him to show you how you are serving Christ. Repent of any ways that you have resisted or not poured out your life. Ask Him to fill you with His grace and love so that you can joyfully give yourself to others. In Jesus' name, Amen.