April 10, 2016
Philippians 1:12-20

JOY IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCE

I.   Introduction:

"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men
are created equal, that they are endowed by their
Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among
these are Life, Liberty, and the **pursuit of Happiness**."
The Declaration of Independence

Lesson: Joy is a _____

II. We Can Be Joyful In Spite Of Our _____

12] Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has
happened to me has really served to **advance the
gospel**. **13]** As a result, it has become clear
throughout the **whole palace guard** and to everyone
else that I am in **chains** for Christ. **14]** Because of my
chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been
encouraged to speak the word of God more
courageously and fearlessly. Philippians 1:12-14

Lesson: Two Questions in difficult circumstances?

The Negative Question: Why did this have to happen
to me?

The Positive Question: What does want to teach me
through this situation?

III. We Can Be Joyful In Spite Of What Others _____

15] It is true that some preach Christ out of **envy and rivalry**, but others out of **goodwill**. **16]** The latter do so in love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. **17]** The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. **18]** But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.   Philippians 1:15-18

IV. We Can Be Joyful In Spite of How Uncertain The _____ May Look

19] for I know that through your **prayers** and the **help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ,** what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. **20]**   I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. Philippians 1:19-20

Paul's Confidence was based on:

A. The _____ of God's People
B. The _____ Given by the Spirit of Jesus

POINTS TO PONDER
Week of April 10th to the 17th
Joy In Any Circumstance
Philippians 1:12-30

Open It

1. How interested are you in the lives of famous people?

2. *How often do you watch TV shows or read articles about celebrities?

Explore It

3. How was Paul's ministry affected by his bondage? (1:12-14)

4. *Why was Paul being talked about? (1:13)

5. How did Paul's incarceration affect the testimony of others? (1:14)

6. Why did some people preach Christ out of envy and rivalry? (1:15-17)

7. Why did some people preach Christ in love? (1:15-16)

8. *What made Paul rejoice? (1:18)

9. Why did Paul expect to be delivered from his predicament? (1:19)

10. How did Paul expect to be delivered? (1:19-20)

11. What was Paul's main purpose in living? (1:21)

12. *What were Paul's convictions about living and dying? (1:22-24)

13. Why did Paul think he would remain alive? ([1:24-26](#))

14. What did Paul want the believers to do? ([1:27-30](#))

15. How did Paul tell the Philippians to face opposition? ([1:27-30](#))

16. How did Paul encourage the Christians at Philippi? ([1:29](#))

Get It

17. *How did Paul's notoriety work to his advantage?

18. How would you like the reputation of being a fearless Christian?

19. To what degree do you share Paul's passion for th
20. e gospel?

20. For what do you truly live?

21. Whom do you know who is suffering for Christ right now?

22. How is your church different from the Philippian church?

23. *What's the toughest thing you've had to experience as a Christian?

24. What are you willing to risk to have the reputation of being a fearless Christian?

25. What about your life-style do you most want to change in your desire to live for Christ?

Apply It

26. What step toward dedicating every area of your life to Christ can you take today?

27. *What can you do today to encourage someone who is suffering because of his or her faith?