# RESCRIPTION OF A CHRIST-CENTERED LIFE THE JOY OF A CHRIST-CENTERED LIFE

A SERMON SERIES FROM Philippians

DENORTH BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

#### **DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY**

This Bible study method focuses on helping everyone comprehend and obey to the text, and it is designed to work with any part of Scripture. Simply pick a passage to study, and follow the steps!

#### **Start with Discussion**

Give everyone in your study group a chance to answer:

- What happened last week for which you are thankful?
- What challengs are you facing?
- How did you obey, share, and meet the needs from last week's meeting?

#### Read the Passage

Have someone read the passage out loud once.

Have someone else read it a second time in another translation.

Then, ask your group to consider the details and summarize the passage in their own words.

#### **Discovery Questions**

Now dig deeper into the text with these questions:

- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about people?
- How will you put this passage into practice?
- Who do you know who needs to hear this?

#### **Close with Prayer**

End the study by thanking God for His Word and praying for each other's needs.

#### ABOUT PHILIPPIANS

The Book of Philippians, penned during the Apostle Paul's first Roman imprisonment, is a letter written to the church at Philippi – a major city in Ancient Greece. It's the most upbeat and personal letter that he wrote.



The joy of the Lord radiates throughout Paul's heartfelt thoughts to his fellow believers in Philippi.

There is a single-minded desire to:

- Know Jesus. (1:21; 3:7-10)
- Advance the Gospel. (1:12-14)
- Express his confidence that Jesus is Lord, even in difficult times. (1:20; 2:9-13; 3:20-21)
- Offer peace of mind because the Lord is always near. (4:4-9)

Paul's letter to the Philippians encourages us to joyfully share the same love of Christ, be united in one Spirit, and live a common purpose of sharing the gospel with our neighbors, family, and the world.

## Philippians 1 The Joy of Living the Jesus Story

<sup>18</sup> 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.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, <sup>19</sup> for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is

KEY POINTS

Christ and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! <sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; <sup>24</sup> but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. <sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup> so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

PHILIPPIANS 1:18-26

APPLICATION			
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Share with your family and/or small group how the life and love of Jesus' message is able to fill a heart with joy.

# Philippious 2 Complete Joy: Shining Like Stars

$\Gamma^{l}$	Therefore	if	you	ha	ve	any
er	ncourageme	ent fro	om be	ing ur	nited	with
C	hrist, if ar	ny con	mfort	from	his	love,
if	any comn	non sl	harin	g in t	he S	pirit,
if	any tend	lernes	s an	d cor	npas	ssion,
<sup>2</sup> t	then make	my jo	y cor	nplete	by b	oeing
lik	ke-minded,	havi	ng t	he sa	me	love,

being one in spirit and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-4

KEY POINTS		

APPLICATION	

Experience the joy of serving by doing a random act of kindness. (Make sure to tell the person you serve that you're doing it because of Jesus!)

# Philippions 3 Future Focus Brings Present Joy

$^{10}$ I	want	to	know	Chi	rist—	yes,	to
know	the	powe	er of	his	resur	rect	ion
and	partio	cipati	on in	his	s suf	ferir	ıgs,
becor	ning	like	him	in	his	dea	ath,
11 an	d so,	some	ehow,	atta	ining	to	the
resur	rectio	n fror	n the	dead			

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for

which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 3:10-14

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APPLICATION		

Ask three people what they think heaven will be like.

# Philippioms 4 No Matter What

 $^{12}$  I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.  $^{13}$  I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

PHILIPPIANS 4:12-13

KEY POINTS		

APPLICATION		

Take a selfie with a joyful person you admire.

If you post it on social media, make sure to tag us @northboulevard\_coc ays. And again I say REJUICE. s. And again I say REJOICE! R And again I say REJOICE! Rejo nd again I say REJOICE! Rejoid in I say REJOICE! Rejoice in the y REJOICE! Rejoice in the Lord OICE! Rejoice in the Lord always ejoice in the Lord always. And vays. And again I say REJOICE And again I say REJOICE! Rejo gain I say REJOICE! Rejoice in I say REJOICE! Rejoice in the I ay REJOICE! Rejoice in the Loi REJOICE! Rejoice in the Lord EJOICE! Rejoice in the Lord al OICE! Rejoice in the Lord alw