

Community Groups at Crossline
Winter 2017 – Week Five
“MORE JOY” – THE PRISON EPISTLE OF PHILIPPIANS

OPEN IN PRAYER AND READ PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30

Questions for vv 12-14

- 1. What does Paul want the Philippians to “know” ?**
- 2. Why does the use of the word “actually” weigh so heavily in his mind?**
- 3. Who was Paul reaching and why was that significant?**
- 4. What was the “domino” effect of Paul’s imprisonment?**
- 5. How does what is happening serve to give Paul joy?**
- 6. Is there a situation in your life similar to Paul’s where God can “actually” show up to bring a witness of the presence of Christ in you?**

Questions for vv 15-18

- 1. What are the different reactions among Christians to Paul’s circumstance?**
- 2. How could that potentially steal or rob his joy?**
- 3. What perspective does Paul have that allows him to rise above his fears or feelings to faith?**
- 4. Paul says, “but what does it matter?” What do those words suggest about his focus?**
- 5. How do you react to people responding your own unexpected or unwelcome circumstances?**
- 6. What does Paul model for us? Why is it important for our level of joy in Christ?**

Questions for vv 19-26

- 1. What two specific sources does Paul identify as game-changers that cause his circumstances to “turn out” ? (19)**
- 2. What battle is Paul fighting in v20? How is he just like us?**
- 3. What perspective has God given him that allows him to navigate his circumstances successfully in faith? (21-22)**
- 4. How does Paul balance his desire to go “be with the Lord” and “remaining” in his circumstance? What sustains his joy and motivation? (23-26)**

Exercise for vv 27-30

Put in your own words Paul’s sentiment and commission to the Philippians. “Whatever happens:

_____.”