

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

OPEN IN PRAYER, READ PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11, AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

What do we sometimes tend to rejoice in (trust in) over rejoicing “in the Lord?”

Why can we rejoice “in the Lord” when circumstances don’t call for rejoicing at all?

What does joy in the midst of adversity tell others about what we believe about God?

“It is a duty for us to cultivate this joy. We must steadfastly arrest any tendency to murmur and complain; to find fault with God’s dealings; or to seek to elicit sympathy. We must as much resist the temptation to depression and melancholy as we would to any form of sin.” (Meyer)

(vv2-6)

What two types of people are being compared here? What are their differences? (2-3)

How does “putting confidence in the flesh” rob us of our joy in the Lord?

PERSPECTIVE: Have some members read Galatians 5:6, 6:15 & Colossians 2:11 out loud in order.

How do we fall back into putting “confidence in the flesh” in today’s Christian culture? (5-6)

PERSPECTIVE: Have a member read Colossians 2:20-23.

(vv7-11)

As Paul accounts for his spiritual life, what does he “subtract” out as being meaningful? Why? (7)

What does Paul joyfully place at the center of his Christian life? (8)

What does the comparison with “rubbish” or “dung” reveal about doing things for Jesus versus knowing Jesus? (8)

PERSPECTIVE: Have some members read Jeremiah 9:23-24 & John 17:3

How do we adjust our time & energy to put more into “relationship” with Jesus?

Why is self-righteousness so dangerous spiritually? (9)

What are the two things a believer will know if they truly know Jesus? (10)

PERSPECTIVE: Have some members read Romans 8:17 & 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

CLOSE: Spend time praying as a group rejoicing in the Lord’s presence and purpose for your lives today as well to know him better.