



## A Scandalous Joy: A New Cause to Live For | Philippians 1:12-19

### Philippians 1:12-19

<sup>12</sup> I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, <sup>13</sup> so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup> And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

<sup>15</sup> Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. <sup>16</sup> The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. <sup>17</sup> The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. <sup>18</sup> What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

“...Expectations encapsulate the millennial rearing project, in which students internalize the need to find employment that reflects well on their parents (steady, decently paying, recognizable as a “good job”) that’s also impressive to their peers (at a “cool” company) and fulfills what they’ve been *told* has been the end goal of all of this childhood optimization: doing work that you’re passionate about. Or at least that’s the theory. So what happens when millennials start the actual search for that holy grail career – and start “adulthood” – but it doesn’t feel at all like the dream that had been promised?”

—Anne Helen Petersen

“...we don’t *feel* the satisfaction that we’ve been told we should receive from a good job that’s “fulfilling,” balanced with a personal life that’s equally so...”

—Anne Helen Petersen

**When? In every circumstance of life**

**Philippians 1:12**

<sup>2</sup> I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel,

**Where? In every arena of life****Philippians 1:13**

<sup>13</sup> so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.

**Why? For God's glory, not our glory****Philippians 1:15-18**

<sup>15</sup> Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. <sup>16</sup> The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. <sup>17</sup> The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. <sup>18</sup> What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

**Practice for the Week:**

- Write down friends, family and coworkers who do not yet know Jesus
- Pray everyday that they would have open hearts to God and that they would come to know Him