



**Pathway Visalia Men's ministry:
Jan. 6th - Paul's life for Christ
"Philippians"**

This next Pathway Men's Ministry will be on Jan. 6th at 6:30 pm. For those who were unable to attend and for anyone interested, we post the study on our Pathway Visalia website. I pray that you will be able to join us. It is such a blessing to share with one another. Below is an overview of the topics that we will discuss as we work our way through the book of Philippians.



Paul's Joy That Christ is Preached:

Paul's life for Christ:

20. For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed (**not disgrace myself nor be put to shame in anything**). 21. For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. 22. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don't know which is better. 23. I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. 24. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.

We left off our Dec. meeting with a challenge from Pastor Mike.

QUESTION: So! - since we are still alive tonight, and since we have a job to do for the sakes of others in our influence - Share what you can do to redeem the time that you have left.

Share an encounter that you have had with an unbeliever since we last met.

25. Knowing this, I am convinced that I will remain alive so I can continue to help all of you grow and experience the joy of your faith. 26. And when I come to you again, you will have even more reason to take pride in Christ Jesus because of what he is doing through me.

QUESTION: What does vs. 25 tell us to emphasize when we are ministering to others?

QUESTION: Share how you have experienced joy because of your growth in knowing the Lord.

QUESTION: Have you had a time where you took pride in Christ because of what He was doing in another person?

LIVE AS CITIZENS OF HEAVEN:

Philippians 1:27-30

27. Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ. Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose, fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News.

QUESTION: Do you think about the fact that you are a citizen of heaven?

QUESTION: What are some rules that we must live by as U.S. citizens?

QUESTION: What are ways that we should conduct ourselves so that we would live in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ

QUESTION: "Standing together with one spirit and one purpose," - Share an example of standing together.

QUESTION: "Fighting together for the faith." - Describe your most recent fight.

28. Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God himself. 29. For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him. 30. We are in this struggle together. You have seen my struggle in the past, and you know that I am still in the midst of it.

QUESTION: Have you ever been "intimidated in any way by an enemy"?

- In what way?

- What did you do?

- How did you recover?

QUESTION: What are some ways that the world stands up to its enemies?

QUESTION: What are ways that we should stand up to people who might intimidate us?

QUESTION: What two privileges did Paul say that the Lord has given to us?

QUESTION: Explain how you have personally suffered due to your trusting in Christ.

QUESTION: "We are in this struggle together." - What are some of the benefits of; "struggling together"?

QUESTION: Is there someone in your life who motivates you by seeing their struggles?

HAVE THE ATTITUDE OF CHRIST:

Philippians 2:1-12

1. Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? 2. Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose.

Here, Paul asks us four questions, and then He gives us three instructions.

QUESTION: So, let's start off by answering the four questions before we move on to the instructions. As you answer, ask the question: "What and How" and give some examples.

1 – Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ?

2 – Is there any comfort from his love?

3 – Is there any fellowship together in the Spirit?

4 – Are your hearts tender and compassionate?

QUESTION: The 3 instructions are:

1 - agreeing wholeheartedly with each other

2 - love one another

3 - working together with one mind and purpose

QUESTION: How have you seen these 3 instructions work together at church?

3. Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. 4. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. 5. You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

Paul starts out by telling us two things not to do; "Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others".

QUESTION: Share some ways that you have failed to heed these warnings.

QUESTION: Why do you think that people; "try to impress others"?

"QUESTION: Share how you have changed in these areas.

Paul then tells us to do four things as Christians.

QUESTION: What are they?

QUESTION: Share an example where you looked out for the interests of another person.

QUESTION: Let's talk about how important these verses are for our everyday life if we want to show Christian love to others.