

# Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?



## FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why was Paul joyful, even in prison?
- How have you seen God bring about good through difficult circumstances?
- What does it mean to be joyful? How is joy different from happiness?



## Paul's Joy in Prison

Philippians 1:12-30

**MAIN POINT: WHILE HE WAS IN PRISON, PAUL TOLD THE PHILIPPIAN CHURCH TO BE JOYFUL.**

Paul was living as a prisoner in Rome. He was waiting to meet with the emperor of Rome. While in prison, Paul wrote a letter to the Christians in Philippi to thank them for sending a gift and to tell them about his work.

Paul wrote, "I want you to know, brothers, that even though the Jews tried to stop me, everything that has happened has actually helped me tell more people the good news about Jesus.

"I hope that I will never be afraid or embarrassed about anything. I want to be bold and honor Jesus, whether I live or I die.

"For me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I live, I live for Jesus. If I die for Jesus, I will be with Him forever.

"No matter what happens, live your life in a way that brings honor to the gospel of Christ."

Paul also urged the believers to not let anyone scare them away from doing God's work. He said, "This is the work God has given you to do—not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for Him."

*Christ Connection: God used Paul's difficult circumstances to spread the gospel and build the church. Paul knew that because Jesus suffered to bring salvation to the world, believers doing God's work would suffer too.*

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