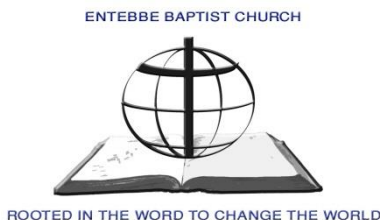


Our Vision: To be a growing, loving, caring, and holistic church based on the word of God.



Our Mission: To be rooted in the Word to change the World

Bible Study September 19 - October 03, 2021

Theme of the year: "Victory only through Faith and Obedience"

Theme: The Joy of the Lord – No matter What!

Note: Kindly take some time to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding.

Man cannot live without joy; therefore, when he is deprived of true spiritual joys it is necessary that he become addicted to carnal pleasures. --**Thomas Aquinas**.

The joy of the Lord will arm us against the assaults of our spiritual enemies and put our mouths out of taste for those pleasures with which the tempter baits his hooks. ---**Matthew Henry**.

Purpose: To understand from reading the book of Philippians how to live joyfully in every circumstance.

Introduction and background passage: Read Acts 16.

- To note is the description of Philippi [Acts 16:12].
- Around AD 50, the city had few Jewish residents.
- Lydia the first convert was a gentile business woman from Thyatira and a Philippian jailer.
- The church met in Lydia's home at first as noted in Acts 16:15.

1. **First Reading:** Philippians 1:1-19.

- a) Apostle Peter wrote this epistle to the believers in Philippi, imprisoned in Rome.
 - i. What is the basis of Apostle Paul's prayer in verses 3-5?
 - ii. What is the source of Apostle Paul's joy and his confidence? Verses 3-6.
 - iii. What does the author mean with "good work" in verse 6?
 - iv. What good work do you think the Lord does in our lives every day?

Prayer Moment: Take a short moment in prayer guided by [verses 9-11] to pray for the brethren at Entebbe Baptist Church and the overall body of Christ around the world.

- b) What Apostle Paul's desire is reflected in his prayer for the Philippians? Verses 9-11
- c) What do we need to do when the gospel is being hindered in some seasons? Verse 4.
- d) What is the root and foundation of our righteousness according to Apostle Paul? Verse 11.
- e) What is Apostles Paul's reason for rejoicing¹ when suffering in prison?
- f) In what ways do you think Christ is preached with wrong motives?
- g) What significance of prayer does Apostle Paul highlight in verse 19?

¹ **"Rejoice"** used in verse 18 is the Greek word **chairō** [Strong's G5463], meaning to rejoice exceedingly. In other words a "heightened sense of joy".

- h) If you're currently going through trials and they have become like a prison to you, what lesson do you learn from Apostle Paul in this text?
2. **Second Reading:** Philippians 1:20-27.
- What is Apostle Paul's hope according to verse 20?
 - What did Apostle Paul live for? How does that challenge you in your faith?
 - What advice did Apostle Paul give to the Philippians?
 - How can we live then a life worthy of the gospel? See also Ephesians 4:1-3.
 - Is living a life worthy of the gospel just a morally upright behavior?
 - How does this passage encourage you on how to live as a child of God?
 - How many times is the word Christ mentioned in chapter one?
3. **Third Reading:** Philippians 2:1-11.
- How many "*anys*" does Apostle Paul highlight at the beginning of chapter 2?
 - What do these words *one mind, same love, one in spirit, like-minded* emphasize?
 - In what ways can selfishness ruin the body of Christ?
 - What was the outcome of Christ's obedience? See verses 9-11
 - How important is Christ's death on the cross to us believers? See I Peter 2:24-25, Hebrews 9:22, Colossians 2:14, Galatians 3:13, Ephesians 2:13, Hebrews 9:14.
 - What do you think is the key to working together effectively as partners in the gospel?
 - What kind of mind are the believers supposed to have according to verse 5?
 - What do you think according to the text can help us to be humble? See verse 5-11

Additional Note: Dr. Thomas. L. Constable states the Philippians 2:5-11 according to Paul revealed that the "mind of Christ" was *in the Savior*. We find this revelation that one of the greatest Christological passages in the Bible is this passage. The Gospels reveal Jesus's words and works, but this passage unveils His mind.²

4. **Fourth Reading:** Philippians 2:12-18
- What is involved in working out our salvation? Verses 12-13. Can we do it alone?
 - What good purposes do you think God has for you? Romans 8:28, Ephesians 2:10, II Timothy 1:9, II Peter 3:9, Philippians 1:6, Ephesians 1:4.
 - What is Apostle Paul cautioning us in verse 14? Why is it very important to take heed to that caution?
 - What do you think we need to do in order not to grumble or make others grumble?
 - What do verses 17 to 18 reflect of Apostle Paul?
5. **Fifth Reading:** Philippians 2:19-30.
- What kind of person is Timothy? Who sent Epaphroditus to apostle Paul?
 - What is special about Timothy and Epaphroditus?
 - What testimony is Apostle Paul giving about Epaphroditus?
6. **More Application:**
- What do you think according to Chapters 1 and 2 can make you abound more and more in the love and knowledge of Christ? What specific biblical truth have you learned from Philippians 1 and 2?
 - How are you going to apply the above lessons so that you have joy in this season?

Memory Verses

Philippians 1:21, 2:14, 27,

-END-

²Dr. Thomas. L. Constable notes on Philippians, 2017 Edition.