



REAL JOY

A STUDY
THROUGH
PHILIPPIANS

WEEK 4
FEBRUARY 2

LIFE
GROUPS

GUIDE

FINDING JOY

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21

GETTING STARTED

When was a time where you had to sacrifice something you value to gain something even better?

STORY BACKGROUND

This week we are going to apply the “Pronounce it” method from the study book “40 Days In The Word” (pages 1-5).

The Pronounce it method consists in reading the verses multiple times, *emphasizing a different word* each time.

A couple of examples of a word to emphasize in these verses:

- “I” (including “me”)
- “Christ”

Read the verses aloud multiple times. Each time pick one word and emphasize it more while you are reading it. The purpose of this exercise is to imprint keywords in our minds through repetition and emphasis, so that the Holy Spirit might not only inform us, but transform us through each word in a different and powerful way.

IN BEING SOLD OUT FOR CHRIST



STORY: Philippians 1:21-25 (Read aloud)

MEMORY VERSE: Philippians 2:1-2

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.



HEAD LEVEL: These questions help us to examine what the Word tells us.

- What is considered gain by Paul?
- But if to die for Christ is gain, then why does Paul “*remain in the flesh*” (verse 24)?
- What kind of *life* and what kind of *death* is Paul talking about?



HEART LEVEL: These questions help us wrestle with what we believe.

- How has Christ influenced your daily life?
- How do you respond to the call for a fruitful, meaningful, and joyful labor?
- What stood out to you in these verses?



HANDS LEVEL: These questions help us commit to a next step and live it out in our everyday lives.

- Paul challenges the believer to live a life full of joy. How are you going to respond?
- What outward appearance do you display to show that you are a follower of Christ?
- What are you doing to show that Christ is the center of your life?
- How are you showing the joy and faith of living a life in Christ?

Next Week's Life Group: Real Joy: Finding Joy in Unity

Next Week's Story: Philippians 2:1-11

Our Church's Definition of a Biblical Disciple of Jesus

A person who is committed to *following, being changed by,*
and *on mission* with Jesus (taken from Matthew 4:19).

The Purpose of Life Groups

Life Groups are where we connect with God and with others through relationships – growing in spiritual maturity as biblical disciples of Jesus and inspiring a culture of discipleship as we do life together. Life Groups are loving, safe, and interactive places where people can be authentic and vulnerable as they explore, experience, serve, and grow in relationship with Jesus, the Word, and others. (*Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 3:12-13, 10:23-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11*)
