

Instructions

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and pick 3-5 questions to discuss, which pertain to your group's unique needs and style.

For the video related questions, look up the video in RightNow Media. You can do this on a phone, tablet, computer, or SmartTV device. You can easily find the video by clicking on the "Revolution Church" channel within the app. If you or a group member needs access to RightNow Media, please email info@revolutionky.org.

Series Synopsis

When you think of living the good life, what do you imagine? Being happy, wealthy, or without a care in the world? Or maybe taking exotic vacations? Our world has a lot to say about what it means to live a good life, and it is not afraid to give us tips, products, and goals for pursuing that life now. But as it turns out, scripture has a different approach for finding the good life; often it comes through suffering, humility, and surrender. Join us this October as we explore the letter to the Philippians to debunk the myths of the good life in our world today and discover the real power of joy in Christ.

Message Synopsis

Paul had every reason to boast in his own goodness and righteousness. He was the picture-perfect Jew; circumcised on the eighth day, from the tribe of Benjamin, a religious leader, even defending the law with great zeal, and blameless according to the law. But he says whatever holiness he gained through these actions and identity, he counts as a loss for knowing Jesus Christ. None of that matters except the life and freedom and identity that comes in Christ. Everything else, is rubbish in comparison. Our society is really good at valuing us based on what we do, or how good we are, and even expecting perfection. And too often we believe them, that our worth is tied to our accomplishments. But God desires so much more for us. God desires we know the freedom and peace of being loved by God, not because we are good enough, but because God is.

Key Scriptures

Philippians 3:4-14

Questions Related to This Week's Message

Consider watching this week's video(s) before answering these questions to help broaden your perspective on the topic.

1. How would you describe your earliest sense of your self-worth? What were the most influential forces in determining or forming this self-worth?
2. Have these feelings changed or stayed the same since childhood?
3. Where in your life do you feel the most pressure to be perfect?
4. How can we help remind you, or what helps you remember, that you are valued and worth much more than what you do in a day?

Video and Discussion Questions from RightNow Media

Video: “Philippians: To Live Is Christ, To Die Is Gain: Session 5 – Christianity Made Simple” by Matt Chandler (31 min)

(located in the “Renovation Group Bible Studies” channel)

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/133?episode=5>

For a shorter synopsis of this passage, you may also consider this 6-minute video:

Video: “The Book of Philippians: Session 5 – Philippians 3:1-11” by Jo Saxton (6 min)

(located in the “Renovation Group Bible Studies” channel)

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/368582?episode=5>

1. Take a moment to discuss the video(s) freely. What stuck out to you? What bothered you? What questions did this raise for you? Even consider where and why your mind wandered as you watched, as it might reveal something of your heart or something of significance in the message.
2. If all your purpose was stripped away – you lost your job, lost your family, you lost your ministry – who would you be? Where would you find your hope? Where would you find your identity/value/worth?
3. What things/moments stir your affections for Christ? What robs your affections for Christ?
4. On a scale of 1-10 (ten being the most), what level is your yearning/hunger/desperation for God today? Is that higher, lower, or equal to your usual and why? Are you satisfied with that level?
5. What “little things” have we added to Christianity (see the Jo Saxton video) that equal signs of the “good life”? Are they Scriptural? Are they essential? What things are really important?
6. Discuss a few of the Message-Related Questions in light of the video(s) you just watched.
7. Consider watching more of this series at home if you want to learn more about Paul’s letter to the Philippians and how it impacts your life today.

Family-Related Questions:

1. Children learn love first from their parents. They learn what it is, how to give it, what “earns” it and what “deflects” it. Might your children feel your love and affection is related to their behavior? How do you affirm them and show your love even when they make mistakes and behave badly?
2. We ask children all the time, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” but we so quickly confuse “be” with “do” in this question, looking for a career or action as a response. Have a conversation with your kids this week about the difference. Ask them who they want to be and then talk about their character. Explain that they can be the person God made them to be, no matter what they do. But first, you may want to answer this question for yourself so you have an example.