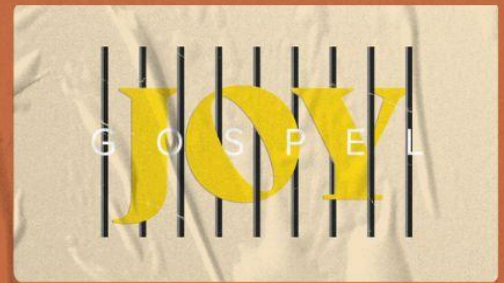


Joy in the Gospel

Gospel Thinking | Philippians 2



MEMORY VERSE: "Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind." Philippians 2:2

The battle for the mind is a generational struggle. The world redefines the approach, but the central theme is consistent: SELF. The Gospel stays consistent and the central theme: JESUS.

1. Gospel Thinking produces Humility
 - Serving others becomes the priority rather than self-preservation
 - Philippians 2:3, Mark 10:45
 - Jesus set the example of humility, even death on the cross
 - Philippians 2:8
 - The pathway of the Kingdom is CROSS before CROWN
 - Philippians 2:9-11
2. Gospel Thinking produces Obedience
 - The Gospel produces holiness that leads to obedience for glory
 - Philippians 2:12-13
3. Gospel Thinking produces Joyful Shine
 - Joyful Shine rejects complaining: A grumbling spirit reflects distrust in God's providence. Complaining is always a sign of sinful pursuit!
 - Philippians 2:14-15, I Thessalonians 5:18
 - Joyful Shine illuminates brighter in extreme conditions: Paul is an example of pouring his life out for the Gospel to advance...with rejoicing
 - Philippians 2:17-18
 - Joyful Shine is contagious: Timothy and Epaphroditus carried the mission
 - Philippians 2:19-20,25

Conclusion: humility not pride, service not selfishness, obedience not compromise, gratitude not grumbling, sacrifice not self-preservation

- Philippians 2:5, Romans 12:2
- What thoughts are currently in your mind that Holy Spirit is convicting you to remove?

Reflect + Respond:

1. Read Philippians 2:3-4; Romans 12:10; John 13:1-17; Proverbs 16:18. What does true Christian humility look like in everyday life? What is the difference between genuine humility and self humility? What is an area in your life that you struggle with pride the most? What is a practical step you can take this week to think/walk in genuine humility?
2. Read Philippians 2:5-8; John 1:1-14; Hebrews 2:14-18; Colossians 1:15-20. Why is the incarnation of Christ essential to the Gospel Thinking? The Council of Nicea in 325AD was convened to settle different theological issues, one being the full deity of Jesus while also confirming His humanity. Why is it important to "think like Jesus" before we try to "do like Jesus"? How does Jesus' humility challenge modern ideas of success and status?
3. Read Philippians 2:12-13; Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 2:11-14; Psalm 119:9-11. How should believers understand obedience and sanctification? How would you define both terms? What spiritual disciplines help you grow in holiness?
4. Read Philippians 2:14-15; Numbers 14:1-12; 1 Corinthians 10:10-11; James 5:9. Why is complaining spiritually dangerous? How can gratitude reshape your response to hardship? What's an area that is difficult for you to have gratitude? What's one step you can take to be grateful rather than gripe?
5. Read Philippians 2:15-16; Matthew 5:14-16; Daniel 12:3; 1 Peter 2:11-12. What does it mean to shine as lights in the world? How does truth overcome feelings? What are some factors that try to darken your shine? How can Journey be a brighter witness in our community? How can you help increase the shine? The early Christians, during the Antonine Plague, cared for the sick while others fled the cities.
6. Read Philippians 2:17-30; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Romans 12:1; Hebrews 12:1-3. Why does the Gospel produce joyful sacrifice? How did Jesus model this sacrifice for us? How did Timothy and Epaphroditus carry the example that Paul set for them? Who are you discipling to carry your example, as you follow Jesus' example?
7. Read Philippians 2:5; Romans 12:1-2; Psalm 1:1-3; 2 Corinthians 10:5. How can you cultivate the mind of Christ today? What most shapes your mind/thinking: Scripture, media, politics, or culture? What habits would help you renew your mind according to God's Word? Martin Luther emphasized the necessity of saturating the mind with Scripture rather than human tradition.