

Community Group Discussion Guide



Sunday, November 1, 2020

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

In this week's passage, Paul rejoices confidently in his future deliverance, his future departure, and in the pursuit of future discipleship.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

- What is the immediate and ultimate context of Paul's deliverance (Philippians 1:25, 2:24; Job 13:13-16; 2 Timothy 4:18)? Why was he so confident?
- By what two God-ordained means would Paul be delivered (verse 19)? Do you make it your joyful responsibility to pray for your church family? Do you depend on the Holy Spirit's strength to sustain you in all circumstances (Romans 8:31-37)?
- What is Paul's determination ("eager anticipation and hope")? Are you actively seeking ways to honor/glorify God with your life? How are trials an opportunity to magnify God's glory to those around us?
- What does it mean to "live as Christ" or to proclaim, "Christ is my life" (Colossians 3:4)? Have you created an improper division between sacred and secular in your life?
- Why could Paul say that death is gain (2 Corinthians 5:8)?
- What is our natural response to suffering? What was Paul's response (verse 23-24)?
- What was Paul's aim by remaining? Are you growing in your faith? Are you growing in joy? How does community contribute to your growth in faith and joy? Do you identify discipleship with joy? Does it bring you joy to disciple others?
- Discuss the three reasons Paul lists as the basis of the Philippians joy:
 - Paul's relationship with the Philippian church
 - Their shared union with Christ
 - Paul's physical return