

Philippians Week 4

The Gospel Through Suffering

Memory Verse:

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2

1) CATCH UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the day-in and day-out happenings of our lives. Because God is our Father, we are family. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)? Are there any practical needs you have right now?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2) DISCUSS AND ENGAGE

Since we follow Jesus, we seek to apply the Gospel continually to all of life. God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25).

What does the Bible teach us about God's plan for suffering in our lives?
What parts of the Scriptures' teachings on suffering are difficult for you?

Read Philippians 1:12-14

As Paul explains it, what purpose does his imprisonment serve?

How have you seen the Lord use suffering to advance the gospel?

How have you seen the Lord use suffering to embolden you or other Christians?

Use this Bible study as encouragement for you to review the mission and close in prayer.

3) REVIEW THE MISSION

Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we have been sent as missionaries in everyday life to display God's glory and lead others to repentance and faith through belief in the gospel. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

When was the last time that you shared the gospel with an unbeliever? Who needs to hear the gospel in your life? Take a moment together to pray for the names mentioned and for the Lord to open up new opportunities to tell others about Jesus.