

Philippians

PURSUING AUTHENTIC JOY

WEEK TWO

Gospel Perspective

Gospel Perspective

- What if your circumstances did not dictate your joy?
- What if people's opinions of you didn't define you?
- What if you were no longer anxious and afraid?
- What if you knew Paul's secret?

Skeptics

Email

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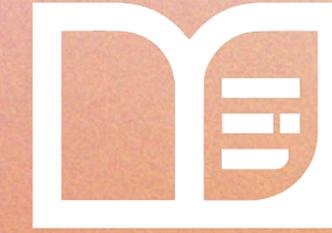
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Questions?

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**What if your circumstances
did not dictate your joy?**

Philippians 1:12 NIV

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters,
that what has happened to me...

**What if your circumstances
did not dictate your joy?**

Philippians 1:13b-14a; 17b ^{NIV}

...that I am **in chains** for Christ.

¹⁴ And because of **my chains**...

...supposing that they can stir up
trouble for me while I am **in chains**.

**What if your circumstances
did not dictate your joy?**

Philippians 1:12 ^{NIV}

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to **advance** the gospel.

**What if your circumstances
did not dictate your joy?**

Philippians 1:18b ^{NIV}

And because of this I rejoice.

**What if your circumstances
did not dictate your joy?**

Philippians 4:11 ^{NIV}

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.

Gospel Perspective

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**What if people's opinions
of you didn't define you?**

Philippians 1:15-17 ^{NIV}

It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. ¹⁶ The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷ The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, **supposing that they can stir up trouble for me** while I am in chains.

**What if people's opinions
of you didn't define you?**

Philippians 1:20 NIV

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

**What if people's opinions
of you didn't define you?**

Acts 11:26 NIV

So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

**What if people's opinions
of you didn't define you?**

Philippians 1:18 NIV

But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.

Gospel Perspective

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**What if you were no longer
anxious and afraid?**

Philippians 1:20 NIV

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but **will have sufficient courage** so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

**What if you were no longer
anxious and afraid?**

Philippians 1:21-23 NIV

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far...

**What if you were no longer
anxious and afraid?**

Philippians 1:21-23 NIV

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to **depart and be with Christ**, which is better by far...

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**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:12 ^{NIV}

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel.

An absolute value for me is the center of value that makes all my other values valuable. Bitterness becomes neurotically intensified when someone or something stands between me and something that is my ultimate value.

Thomas Oden, *Two Worlds*

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:12 ^{NIV}

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance _____

Suppose my god is sex or my physical health or the Republican Party. If I experience any of these under genuine threat, then I feel myself shaken to the depths. Guilt becomes neurotically intensified to the degree that I have idolized finite values...Suppose I value my ability to teach and communicate clearly...If clear communication has become an absolute value for me, a center of value that makes all my other values valuable...then if I fail in teaching well I am stricken with neurotic guilt.

Thomas Oden, *Two Worlds*

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:12 ^{NIV}

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance _____

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:12 ^{NIV}

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel.

Since Providence, which has ordered all things and is deeply interested in our life, has **set in most perfect order by giving us Augustus**, whom she filled with virtue that he might benefit humankind, **sending him as a savior**, both for us and for our descendants, **that he might end war and arrange all things**, and since he, Caesar, by his appearance (excelled even our anticipations), surpassing all previous benefactors, and not even leaving to posterity any hope of surpassing what he has done, **and since the birthday of the god Augustus was the beginning of the good tidings [εὐαγγέλιον] for the world that came by reason of him**, which Asia resolved in Smyrna.

Priene Calendar Inscription, 9 B.C.

What if you knew Paul's secret?

Isaiah 52:7-8 ^{NIV}

How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
“Your God reigns!”

⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;
together they shout for joy.
When the Lord returns to Zion,
they will see it with their own eyes.

Ευαγγελιον
Euangalion
Gospel

**The announcement that Jesus is Israel's
Messiah and the world's true King**

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:2 ^{NIV}

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Romans 1:2-4 ^{NIV}

...the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David,⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Mark 10:45 NIV

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

An absolute value for me [is the] center of value that
makes all my other values valuable.

Thomas Oden, *Two Worlds*

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:12 ^{NIV}

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel.

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:13 NIV

As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:21-24 ^{NIV}

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:20 NIV

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed...

**What if you knew
Paul's secret?**

Philippians 1:14 NIV

And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

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What if you knew Paul's secret?

Philippians 2:6-11 ^{NIV}

Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be used to his own advantage;
rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

and every tongue acknowledge
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

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