

"Joy In The Waiting" Philippians 1

December 1, 2024 Pastor Bear Clifton

Vss.1-2 – What do we learn about Paul from his greeting?

What is the setting in which Paul writes Philippians?

How can we find joy in the waiting place (those times when we're waiting for God to show up?)

Idea #1 (modeled by Paul): _	for others
regularly, and	(vss.3-11)

Why would Paul pray for people by name?

- 1. It reminds us that we're all on ______ together. (vss.4-5, 7)
- 2. It reminds us that each one of us is a ______. (vs.6)
- 3. It will fill us with ______ for the ones we're praying for. (vs.8)

If we're not just to pray, "God bless So-and-So", then how *do* we pray for each other? How does Paul specifically pray for them? (vss.9-11)

Idea #2: ______ your circumstances, by looking at them through the eyes of ______. (vss.12-18)

What's hard when you're in a waiting place is that everyone has different ideas about why you're there. How did Paul reframe the difficult things he was going through?

Paul would agree with John when he wrote, "And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God." – 1 John 5:4-5). How is it that faith gives victory to those (and only those) who follow Christ?

Idea #3: Make the choice that whether you live or die	, you
will (vss.19-30)

What does it mean to *live for Christ* in our waiting places?

- It means I will work to grow ______ of God's Kingdom wherever I am. (vss.22,25)
- 2. I will work for the ______ of the Church for the sake of the Gospel. (vs.27)