

Philippians - Core Help 1:12-30

Goals: The goal of this study is to help your Core group keep getting to know each other, but also to build an early culture of outreach and invitation to people not in Core yet.

Openers:

- Go around the room - whether you'd call yourself a Christian or not, who has played the most significant role in your spiritual journey so far? How so?
- Share about a time when you had to make a decision to stand for your values, even though the pressures around you said you shouldn't, or didn't agree with you. What did you do?

Scripture: The Scripture we're gonna look at is about Paul seeing his whole life as a chance to help other people get to know Jesus. As you read it, listen for all the ways Paul hopes his experiences might help others on their spiritual journeys.

Read Philippians 1:12-30

Observations:

- Reconstruct the setting of this letter - what's Paul's situation in this letter?

Interpretations:

- How would you feel if you were in the Philippians' shoes? Imagine a great friend of yours is in prison for standing for what they believe in - and you happen to agree with what they believe in! What things would you feel?
- Why does Paul seem so excited about whatever happens to him?

Applications:

- Think about our campus - what's your take on the "spiritual temperature" on campus? How interested are students about exploring spiritual/religious/Jesus sorts of things?
- Look again at v. 12-14. When you think about all the people on our campus, whose responsibility is it to help them explore Jesus?
- If Paul were writing this letter to this Core group, how do you think he would want us to live out v.18 and v.27?
- Who is one person in your life you think might be interested in coming to Core to explore more about Jesus? Close Core by praying for those people, for courage to invite them to explore Jesus, and for their spiritual journey (out loud, if people are comfortable).