

joy / full

a study in philippians

GROUP GUIDE

Read Philippians 2:5-30 together.

#7 - Pray this together: Philippians 1:9-11

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

People of Light // January 12, 2025

- 1 - What are you hoping God will do in your life in 2025? Share with the group.
- 2 - Read Philippians 2:5-30.
 - Why is it important to ground Paul's teaching in 2:12-30 in 2:5-11?
 - What happens when you start with what you must do instead of what Jesus has done?
 - How can we be sure that we are starting from the right place?
- 3 - Most of us wouldn't consider 'grumbling' and 'arguing' to be a serious discipleship issue, but Paul does.
 - Why does he mention these two issues specifically? Consider Exodus 16:1-3 and Numbers 14:1-4 and what grumbling and complaining cost a generation of Israelites (cost - not entering the promised land).
- 4 - Paul uses ancient stories from Israel's past to teach the Philippians in the present. Use the following passages to discuss what the identity and purpose of God's people is:
 - Exodus 19:4-6 (and 1 Peter 2:9-10)
 - Isaiah 42:6-7
 - Isaiah 49:6
- 5 - Read Matthew 5:14-16.
 - What do you feel when you read that you are the 'light of the world' as a follower of Jesus?
 - Have you ever dimmed or had the light God's given you dimmed by others? Share what that experience was like.
- 6 - God has given the people of God an identity and a purpose. As you consider these, what does this mean about who the church is and how might you play your part in living this out?
 - Identity - chosen people, royal priesthood, a holy people, God's special possession
 - Vocation - to make known the God who brings people out of darkness into the light
- 7 - End by praying Philippians 1:9-11 together.

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[LEADERS NOTES]

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU FOLLOW JESUS

- centralheights.ca/followjesus

STORIES

- We love hearing how God moves in people's lives. If you or anyone in your group has a story and would be willing to share, we'd love to hear it and celebrate with you. You can share your story by emailing stories@centralheights.ca

MESSAGE Video and Audio can be found at:

<https://www.centralheights.ca/currentseries>