



RCC Phoenix – 3.7.21 – Philippians (Week 4)

1. God is Using Your _____

Philippians 1:12-13 NLT

“And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News. For everyone here, including the whole palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ. And because of my imprisonment, most of the believers here have gained confidence and boldly speak God’s message without fear.”

How is Paul so sure that these oppressive circumstances are helping the cause of Christ?

A. “Everyone here, including the whole palace guard, knows I am in chains because of Christ.”

Paul makes sure the believers in Philippi, who are in a city designed and occupied by mostly _____ Roman Soldiers, understand he’s speaking to the palace guard.

The palace guard was made up of members from the Praetorian Guard.

These were _____ Roman soldiers. It was highly prestigious to be chosen as one of the Praetorian Guards.

While in prison, Paul was directly _____ to a guardsman during the entire time he was imprisoned.

Paul saw _____ his negative circumstance and saw the larger plan of God in action.

Paul was able to _____ members of the palace guard because of his imprisonment.

B. “And because of my imprisonment, most of the believers here have gained confidence and boldly speak God’s message without fear.”

Paul recognized that he was paying a price personally so the _____ of other believers would be increased and they would, in turn, continue spreading the Gospel to Rome.

Many people are looking for someone to make the first _____.

Reflection Questions:

Have we considered what the Lord might be doing through our trying circumstance?
What do I feel compelled to do for the Gospel?

2. God _____ His Purpose

Philippians 1:14-19 NLT

“It’s true that some are preaching out of jealousy and rivalry. But others preach about Christ with pure motives. They preach because they love me, for they know I have been appointed to defend the Good News. Those others do not have pure motives as they preach about Christ. They preach with selfish ambition, not sincerely, intending to make my chains more painful to me. But that doesn’t matter. Whether their motives are false or genuine, the message about Christ is being preached either way, so I rejoice. And I will continue to rejoice.”

The work of God and the message of the Gospel happens through flawed people.

God used a man with a stuttering problem as the primary mouthpiece to Pharaoh. _____

God used a prostitute to help his Children invade a city. _____

God used a murderer and adulterer to become the greatest king of Israel. _____

God used a man who ran in the opposite direction to bring repentance to an entire city. _____

God used a man with suicidal thoughts to call fire from heaven. _____

God used someone who denied Jesus multiple times to build His church. _____

God used a man who murdered Christians to spread the Gospel to the Gentiles. _____

Do the failures of people in ministry positions who showed their flawed character negate the work the eternal Word of God did in us? _____

Reflection Question:

Am I wavering in any truth about God because of someone else’s failure?

3. _____ Works

Philippians 1:19 NLT

“For I know that as you pray for me and the Spirit of Jesus Christ helps me, this will lead to my deliverance.”

God moves on our requests when we _____ continually, in faith & according to the will of God.

Colossians 4:2-3 NLT

“Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NLT

“Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”

God’s _____ for us a believers is to have joy, gratitude & to pray.

Reflection Question:

What have we stopped praying for because we haven’t yet seen the results?