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## Week 3

### REAL JOY COMES FROM POURING INTO OTHER LIVES.

#### Paul Commends Timothy

<sup>20</sup> I have no one else like Timothy, who genuinely cares about your welfare. <sup>21</sup> All the others care only for themselves and not for what matters to Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup> But you know how Timothy has proved himself. Like a son with his father, he has served with me in preaching the Good News. **Philippians 2:20-22 NLT**

- Timothy was different in a God way.
- He genuinely cared about others.
- Dads, have you poured godly character into your family?
- Dads, have you preached the Good News?
- “Preach the gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words”.
- Have your children seen you sharing Jesus and caring for others?

#### Paul Commends Epaphroditus

<sup>29</sup> Welcome him in the Lord’s love and with great joy, and give him the honor that people like him deserve. <sup>30</sup> For he risked his life for the work of Christ, and he was at the point of death while doing for me what you couldn’t do from far away. **Philippians 2:29-30 NLT**

- Rejoice with and honor those that risk their life for Christ.

### REAL JOY COMES FROM KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AS LORD BY FAITH!

Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith. <sup>2</sup> Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved. <sup>3</sup> For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, <sup>4</sup> though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more!

<sup>5</sup> I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. <sup>6</sup> I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault. <sup>7</sup> I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. <sup>8</sup> Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, <sup>11</sup> so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead! **Philippians 3:1-11 NLT**

- Whatever happens rejoice!
- It’s not what we can do it’s what Jesus has done.
- Nothing else comes close to knowing Christ.

<sup>12</sup> I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. <sup>8</sup> Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and become one with him... **Philippians 3:7-9a NLT**

#### Pressing toward the Goal

<sup>12</sup> I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. <sup>13</sup> No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. <sup>15</sup> Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. <sup>16</sup> But we must hold on to the progress we have already made. <sup>17</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. <sup>18</sup> For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup> They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. <sup>20</sup> But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. <sup>21</sup> He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control. **Philippians 3:12-21 NLT**

- We are all a work in progress.
- We’ve got to keep getting up and focusing on what’s ahead.
- Are you an enemy of the cross of Christ?

<sup>19</sup> They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. **Philippians 3:19 NLT**

#### Next Steps for me today...

- Choose to surrender my life to Christ.
- Choose to keep pressing on and focusing on what’s ahead.