

Sermon Title: Transformed by Suffering

Sermon Text: Philippians 1:12-30

Date: May 4, 2025

1. Is there anything in Philippians 1:12-30 or this week's sermon that stands out to you?
2. Read Philippians 1:12–14. Paul says, '*what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel.*' Can you say that about any experiences in your life? What was going on at the time?
3. Some people preached Christ more boldly after Paul was jailed—what might have stirred that kind of courage in them?
4. Read Philippians 1:15–18. How do you think Paul could still rejoice, even with people trying to bring him trouble? Does that challenge how you see churches or ministries today?

5. Read Philippians 1:19–26. In the sermon, we heard how many of us practically reverse Paul’s words – turning “*to live is Christ, to die is gain*” into “*to live is gain, to die is Christ.*” In that version, being alive means we get to enjoy life, and if we die, we’re with Jesus. What does Paul’s actual wording mean? What are his priorities?

6. Read Philippians 1:27-28. What does Paul mean when he says “conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel”?

7. Read Philippians 1:29-30. How is Paul’s example an encouragement to the Philippians and to us when we face suffering and persecution?

Pray

As a group, take time to pray for our Ministry Partners around the world. Pray that the Gospel would continue to spread in every circumstance, and that God would raise up more faithful workers to carry the Good News. Thank God for the opportunities He gives us to make Jesus known in our communities, and ask Him to help us live in such a way that we resemble Jesus, even to the point of being treated the way He was treated.