

Week 3

Philippians 2:1-11

Intro

Answer this one question. What do you want out of life? Do you want money? Importance? If you could have one thing, what would it be? Happiness. More time in a day. No more school? A solid friend. What would it be?

Whether that's money, time, social status, Instagram followers, retweets, power, we have an idea of what our life should look like. Our series is called **Be Joyful**, and there has been an underlying topic that we haven't looked at very much but what we are trying to get at is that we ALL WANT JOY. **Do you want to be joyful** or unjoyful, it's like "oh yeah I want to be happy". But we pursue that the wrong way.

<https://thoughtcatalog.com/lorin-ore/2017/12/9-warning-signs-that-the-person-youre-with-is-completely-selfish/>

ME/WE

For me I have an idea of what I want my life to look like. I have certain benchmarks, some of which I have not met, and when I don't get those, I feel like a failure. Because my joy, is built on what I think what my life should look like.

We live life wrong. We live with the wrong goals, and because of that we go the wrong way and get lost, and eventually, lose our joy.

I just watched an interview with Logics Father. He did some terrible things; he admits he was not a good father. He didn't wake up one day, and think, I want to be this terrible father. No, he was chasing what he thought would bring him joy, and eventually found himself an addict and in a hole of life that he had no idea how to get out.

That's an extreme case, but a life without joy can look like all different shapes.

Bible

Let's look at what Paul explained to the church about living this way.

Read Philippians 2:1

This is a funny thing because to us, it sounds like a real question. But it's not. The way it was written in the original language, Greek, it would have been understood as, "if you have been encouraged, which you have been, if you have found comfort in love, which you have". The question, maybe more simply put is, "**do you have any benefit in following Jesus**". The answer is.... YES. Have I been encouraged by being part of the church? YES! My best friends are Christians and guys that I have shared with and can trust. Have I been comforted by his love? YES!

So, I am receiving these benefits.

This part is tricky. Salvation is free. There are no strings attached. But I believe out of these benefits we should want and strive to honor the Lord. We shouldn't live a life only looking to get. And that is what Paul says next.

Read Philippians 2:2-4.

He says make my joy complete. HOW? **Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit.**

Guys we live in a time where the common thought is that we should live for number one and only take care of ourselves. Survive and thrive. Step over anyone

Video Clip from Remember the Titans

Be Humble. And not like the song.

What do your actions say about your life. Do they show that you live your life with others in mind? Does it show that you love and care for other people? Or does it show that you are looking out for yourself.

I don't want to sit with that kid, people might talk about me. - don't be selfish

My parents are idiots, I want to do what I want to do - don't be selfish

My boss makes me do the junk. I'm not gonna do it. - be humble

Yeah but - Be humble

Yeah - Don't be selfish.

And here's the real kicker. Paul. The Jerk. Didn't just leave it at that. He didn't just say, HEY, live a humble life. He gave us the standard by which we should judge our life.

Read Philippians 2:5-11

Takeaways to talk about

- V6 - Didn't use his God(ness) to his own advantage

- V7 - He made himself nothing
- V8 - He gave his life up. He didn't have to. But he did. He shouldn't have. His friends would have said, "don't do it"

If you aren't a Christian

If you are a Christian

Application

So, what does this mean for you.

You will never be Joyful living a selfish life. You just won't. You'll keep coming up short, you'll keep missing your marks, or, worse, the marks keep moving.

What do you need to do?

Obey your parents

Respect your teachers

Stop being mean

Stop. And consider your life. And you decide which way you want to go.