



Life Group Study / Week of October 7, 2018

Memorize.

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,

Philippians 1:3-5

Open.

What do you love most about Fall? Why?

What was your favorite Fall activity when you were in elementary school?

Study.

If you had the opportunity to hear Pastor Jim's message on Sunday, what stood out to you personally? What questions or conflicts did it raise for you, if any?

When you hear the word "tenacious," what images come to mind? What is tenacity? Where and when is it needed in your life?

Many professing Christians these days are announcing that they are giving up on the church. Do you *agree* or *disagree* with Jim's assertion that the choice to "give up on the church" is antithetical to the life of Christian discipleship? Why?

Read Philippians 1:3-5. How do you think Paul understood the implications of his readers' "partnership in the gospel"? What does partnership in the gospel imply for us in 2018?

Read Philippians 1:12-18. Paul points to two positive outcomes of his imprisonment. What are they? How did Paul sustain an outward focus in his adverse circumstances?

Read Philippians 1:27-30. In verse 27, what did Paul hope to hear about these believers? In verse 28, what news did he not wish to receive about them? What insights do you see in these verses for the church to move from fear to obedient courage in the face of opposition?

Paul issues a command in Philippians 4:4. What is the essential difference between *happiness* and *joy* as human experiences? What is the necessary prerequisite if we are to choose genuine joy?

Read Philippians 4:6-7. What are some of the sources of anxiety in your life? What does Paul offer as the antidote to anxiety? What gift replaces anxiety when we use Paul's antidote? Why is it so essential that the church devotes itself to prayer?

Read Philippians 4:19. What is the difference between a scarcity mindset and an abundance mindset in the life of discipleship? What do you need from God right now in order to respond in faith and obedience to what He has put in front of you to be and do?

Read Philippians 4:13. What do you think Paul meant by "all things"? What does "all things" mean in your life right now? What do you need in order to move from excuses (*we all have them*) to obedient action on what God has shown you He wants you to be doing?

In which of the areas we have discussed do you need God to work in you the quality of *tenacity*?

Remember to pray for, and share Christ with your

