

Even Though...Rejoice

Philippians 1:18b-30

The Church at Philippi

Nate Marsh—February 15, 2026

Philippians 1:18, Philippians 1:18b-20

POINT 1: CHRIST IS WORTH EVERYTHING—EVEN WHEN LIFE FEELS _____.

Philippians 1:21

Why do we hold so tightly to this life?

1. We cling to this life because it's familiar.
2. We cling to this life because we mistake blessing for permanence.
3. We cling to this life because we fear loss more than we trust gain.
4. We cling to this life because suffering clouds our vision.

POINT 2: CHRIST IS WORTH EVERYTHING—EVEN WHEN OBEDIENCE INCLUDES _____.

Philippians 1:22-23, Philippians 1:24-26

Sometimes God keeps us in hard places so that someone else can see Christ through us and turn to Jesus.

POINT 3: CHRIST IS WORTH EVERYTHING—BECAUSE OUR LIVES ARE MEANT TO ADVANCE THE _____.

Philippians 1:27–28, Philippians 1:29-30

MY NEXT STEP:

This week, identify one place where comfort or fear has been holding you back from living boldly for Christ.

Then take one intentional step of obedience.

Questions for Further Study

1. In Philippians 1:21, Paul writes, “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.” How does this statement compare with Paul’s words in 2 Corinthians 5:6–8 and Romans 14:7–9? What consistent theology about life, death, and belonging to Christ emerges from these passages?
2. Paul rejoices even while imprisoned (Philippians 1:18–20). How does his response to suffering compare with **Acts** 16:22–25 (his earlier imprisonment in Philippi) and **James** 1:2–4? What do these passages reveal about the relationship between joy and hardship?
3. In Philippians 1:27–28, Paul urges believers to “conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel.” How does this call align with **Ephesians** 4:1–3 and **Colossians** 1:10? What practical characteristics define a life that is “worthy” of the gospel?
4. Philippians 1:29 says suffering for Christ has been “granted” to believers. How does this idea connect with Jesus’ teaching in **Matthew** 16:24–25 and **John** 15:18–20? What does the broader New Testament teach about suffering as part of discipleship?
5. Throughout this passage, Paul emphasizes standing firm together and striving “as one for the faith of the gospel” (Philippians 1:27). Give practical examples on how you have seen this play out in your life or the lives of others.