

Themes

- Joy/Rejoicing
- Partnership
- Gospel

Phil. 1:12-18

• "Now I want you to know, brethren, that the things which have happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel..."

Criticisms Paul Faced

- "You shouldn't have gotten distracted by insisting on your rights"
- "You shouldn't have ended up stifled in prison"
- "Your failure will discourage others"
- "You left others without direction and leadership just when they needed you"

But Actually...

- Furthering the gospel
 - Among the guards
 - Among the palace...
 - ...And whoever they told...
 - Other preachers

Preaching Out of Envy and Strife

- More temptation to do this than one might think!
- Paul's reaction
 - Preaching what
 - Preaching why
 - ...Is this really okay?

Preaching from Good Will

- The main voices in mind (v. 14)
- The others do not discourage him
- But rejoicing in both?
- Are you uncomfortable with this assessment and response?
 - (If not, please explain it to me)

Explain God

- Who is Christ?
- What is He like?

How Will You Pursue Christ?

- Where is your focus?
- What in your life has unexpectedly furthered the gospel?
- How do you respond to "ministry competition"?

Keep Talking

• But afterwards