

## Outline

What leads to joy?

1. A servant mindset vs. an entitled mindset.
2. Thankfulness for what you have vs. complaining about what you don't have.
3. Sharing your life vs. going it alone.
4. Trust that God can make good out of pain vs. fearing the worst.
5. An awareness of God's grace in suffering vs. thinking you are on your own.

Going Deeper: Use the following questions for personal reflection and/or to discuss with your family, friends or small group.

1. How are "joy" and "happiness" different?
2. What are some things that steal your joy? Is there anything currently that is stealing your joy?
3. Read through Philippians 1. What are the five reasons Paul had joy? Can you see other reasons in this chapter?
4. Of these five reasons, which are new thoughts to you about finding joy?
5. Paul speaks of a partnership, or shared life. How engaged are you in sharing your life with other believers? If not much, how can you change that?
6. What is the "good work" that God has called Thornapple to that God will finish?
7. Read Philippians 1:12-26. You can see how Paul's joy influences his perspective on persecution (12-14), rivalries (15-18) and death (19-26). In your own words, how would you summarize his perspective on each topic?
8. Which verses in chapter one show that God offers grace in the midst of suffering?
9. Reread 1:27,28. Based on what Paul says, what do you think it means to live a life that is worthy of the gospel?
10. What is one step that you can take to be more joyful?