



PRAY WITH JOY

▶ THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Too often prayer is limited to asking God to intervene in a crisis or fix a problem. To be sure, the Bible is full of invitations for us to call on Him to work, but our prayers should also reflect the fact that God has already been at work and continues to work in our lives. When we reflect on His work in our lives and the lives of others, it should cause us to rejoice and motivate us to continue praying joyfully for God's work.

▶ THE POINT

Prayer is an opportunity to experience joy.

▶ THE PASSAGE

Philippians 1:3-11

THE SETTING

The apostle Paul had established the church at Philippi on his second missionary journey (Acts 16). It had not been one of the destinations he intended to visit, but after being prevented by God from going to some of his intended destinations, and after a pleading dream, Paul and his traveling companions arrived in the city. Then, near the end of his life and from a prison cell, Paul wrote to that church the letter we will study.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,

⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy,

⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.

⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment,

¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,

¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.



For **free online training** on how to lead a group visit

MinistryGrid.com/web/BibleStudiesForLife

For **free Midweek Options** for your group, visit

lifeway.com/BSFLWIN17Spoken



PREPARE

LEADER LIVE IT OUT

Overflowing Joy | Philippians 1:3-11

The world sees our joy from the overflow of our personal relationship with Christ. There is no more miserable, tired, and ineffective Christian than one who simply puts on a face of joy for the world to see without first experiencing the overflow of true joy in their own life. Many Christians fail to live in joy because their lives are focused on the wrong things. Until we place Jesus as our top priority and orient our lives toward serving others, we will only be as happy as our circumstances will allow, instead of as joyful as Jesus desires us to be.

- ▶ **Take a few moments to pray and list how you can reorient your life toward joy. Pray that God will open your eyes to see where you need to place Him first, others second, and yourself third. Complete the Culture section at the end of Session 1.**

1

Prepare: While you prepare for this session, it is critical to allow the truth of Scripture to challenge your heart. God works in our hearts as we teach others His Word.

ONE CONVERSATION™

Scripture: Philippians 1:3-11 **Topic:** Pray with Joy

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: Too often prayer is limited to asking God to intervene in a crisis or fix a problem. To be sure, the Bible is full of invitations for us to call on Him to work, but our prayers should also reflect the fact that God has already been at work and continues to work in our lives. When we reflect on His work in our lives and the lives of others, it should cause us to rejoice and motivate us to continue praying joyfully for God's work.

THE POINT: Prayer is an opportunity to experience joy.

- When has someone's recognition meant a great deal to you?
- What are some examples of temporary happiness versus true joy?
- What obstacles hinder us from building deeper relationships?
- How can our group build the kind of relationships Paul described in these verses?
- Why are both knowledge and discernment necessary for loving others like Christ?

Discuss the following quote: "[Prayer is] a constant fellowship, an unbroken audience with the King."¹—E. M. Bounds
1. E. M. Bounds, *Purpose in Prayer* (New York: F. H. Revell, 1920), 66.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out in the Personal Study Guide.

Here are some ways you can encourage your students to live out their faith with Christ personally, in community, and in their culture:

- **CHRIST:** Discuss with your student the gifts that God has given to him or her. Be sure to include their salvation, hope, and the purpose that God has provided.
- **COMMUNITY:** Encourage your student to memorize Philippians 1:6 and pray for the work that Christ has planned for their future.
- **CULTURE:** Help your student to orient his or her life placing Jesus as the focus of each and every day.

2

Follow Up: Don't forget to text a picture of the **One Conversation** section to parents or post it on Facebook and tag them after the session. This will equip them for further family discussion.



ENGAGE (15 MINUTES)

THE POINT PRAYER IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE JOY.



THE POINT

PRAYER IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE JOY.

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

FACT:

IN THE 2016 WORLD HAPPINESS INDEX, RESEARCHERS FOUND THAT THE "HAPPIEST COUNTRY" ON EARTH WAS DENMARK WITH A SELF-SCORED SEVEN OUT OF TEN FOR HAPPINESS. INTERESTINGLY, THAT SCORE WAS ONLY ACHIEVED WHEN RESEARCHERS ADDED OVER TWO POINTS TO THE SCALE TO PROPERLY "WEIGHT" RESPONSES.²

What will bring you true joy and happiness? We all look for it, yet few find it. In fact, power, popularity, and money seem to only leave people miserable.

➤ **Prosperous King Solomon had more wealth, women, parties, and wine than we can imagine only to confess that everything was futile (Eccl. 1:2).**

➤ **Alexander the Great conquered the known world. Then he cried in his tent saying, "There are no more worlds to conquer."**

➤ **Tom Brady, after three NFL championships, remarked, "There's got to be more than this."¹**

So what do you need to have full and lasting joy?

If you're interested in finding the answer to this question, check out Philippians. Arguably the most joyful book in God's Word, Philippians was written by a man in prison awaiting execution. Paul shows us how to experience abundant joy beyond our next relationship or achievement.

1 Engage: Begin the session with one or more of the **Engage Options** on the next page (optional).

2 Discuss: Ask students, "When has someone's recognition meant a great deal to you?"

3 Guide: Call attention to **The Point**. Keep coming back to it throughout the session.

4 Read: Summarize the **Bible Meets Life** for your group.

5 Pray: Transition into the session by praying that God would create students who seek Him in prayer for bringing about action in their everyday lives.

ENGAGE OPTIONS

LEAD WITH ACTION

Have your group separate into two teams to create a specific invention with clear guidelines and a goal. For example, you might have the teams create something that involves movement without electricity and can move a tennis ball from point A to point B. The challenge can be anything. Give the teams identical supplies or create a pile of shared supplies. Set a timer for five minutes and explain that they may only use what's provided. Give the winning team a prize based on which invention works the best. Say, **"It's easy to allow our circumstances to dictate our joy. God has given us everything we need to experience true joy, even when life gives us things we don't expect."**

LEAD WITH ATMOSPHERE

Write a personal note to each student and put it in an envelope. Place it in the seat he or she usually sits in. Make this note very specific and point out the godly qualities, spiritual gifts, and talents that you see in each student. The idea of this is to "recognize" them for who God has made them to be. Say, **"One of the things that brings joy to me as your leader is the opportunity to speak into your lives and follow Jesus with you. Today we are going to talk about how God has placed others in our lives to bring joy."**

LEAD WITH MEDIA

Search the Internet for "Amena Brown: He Is Here" and watch her spoken word video with your group. Say, **"This is a great example of praying to God with joy. Everything she says is about how God is true and should give us joy. Notice how her prayer is all about who God is, rather than what she needs."**

NOTE: Always make sure you preview any video clip you show students and ensure that it is appropriate for your church and ministry.

FOR YOUNGER STUDENTS

Have a pen and paper sitting in each seat with an envelope. As students sit down, tell them that they are going to write notes to one another. Specific notes that point out the godly qualities of one another. After your group finishes writing and reading their notes say, "When we speak into the lives of one another, it is an opportunity to find the joy that we were created for. When we pray and thank God in the same way, we can find joy in any circumstance."

LEADER PACK ELEMENTS

If you have the optional Leader Pack, consider one of the following:

DVD: Play the *Unit 2 Session 1 DVD* opener to introduce the session and get everyone on the same page.

Item 8: Use the Unit 2 Fuller Joy Poster to introduce the unit.



IMPART (10 MINUTES)

THE POINT PRAYER IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE JOY.

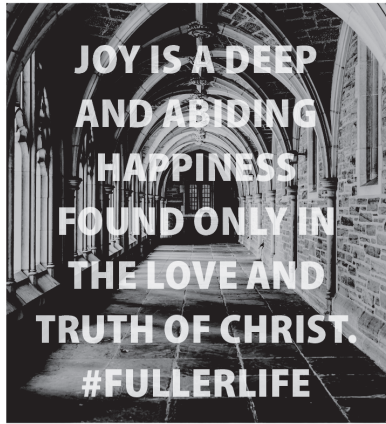
1 Read: Invite a student to read the passage aloud.

2 Engage: Allow students a moment to use Instagram as a tool to share what they have been learning.

3 Engage: Guide your students through the section and assist them in filling in the blanks.

4 Discuss: Lead your students in a discussion of their responses

5 Do: Direct students to read the quote and thoughtfully list their responses. Discuss your answers as a group.



▶ PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6

True joy runs deeper than a temporary happiness that is often tied to circumstances. Joy is a deep and abiding happiness found only in the love and truth of Christ. It's bigger than our problems, because Christ is bigger than our problems. We experience joy by adjusting our focus.

JESUS _____: Paul characterized living in joy. He rejoiced in Christ despite struggles (Rom. 5:3-5), and lived serving others before himself (Phil. 2:3-4). At the core of Paul's joy was a deep love for Jesus that flowed into a love for all people. Joy is Christ-centered and others-oriented.



OTHERS _____: Paul thanked God for people, not things.

He saw God's grace in the Philippians and praised God for His work in them. Paul's focus was on the eternal value of what God was doing in the Philippians, not what was happening around him. He considered the Philippians his partners in the gospel. They had supported and worked with him from the beginning. They were on mission together, and God would complete the work He had started in them, because it's in His faithfulness and purpose.

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF TEMPORARY HAPPINESS VERSUS TRUE JOY?



YOURSELF _____: Throughout his letter to the Philippians, Paul remained joyful even though he was in prison, because he was focused on Christ's calling and the believers God had given him to serve. When yourself is the most important focus, your joy will only reflect your circumstances at that moment.

"No one can get Joy by merely asking for it. It is one of the ripest fruits of the Christian life, and, like all fruits, must be grown."³ - Henry Drummond

How does the previous quote change your view of joy as a feeling we simply receive to a spiritual fruit that grows over time?

COMMENTARY

PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. **PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6**

Verse 3. Paul's opening verses of remembrance and prayer to the Philippians are warm and personal. He looked back on his experiences at Philippi with thankfulness and joy. While his labors there were fraught with difficulties, his memories of the diverse people and their genuine faith undoubtedly brought a smile to his face.

From Paul's ministry in Philippi, Acts introduces us to Lydia, a demon-possessed slave girl, and a Roman jailer, each of whom heard the words of Paul, believed, and followed Christ. Such a diverse population of individuals coming to faith in Jesus Christ and joining together to worship and serve Him so enthusiastically was cause for great thanksgiving (see Acts 16:14-34). It is understandable why Paul would give thanks to God each time he remembered them.

Tip: Change how you conclude a session every once in a while by taking prayer requests or walking through the Life It Out with students before they leave.

Verse 4. These powerful memories caused Paul's prayers for the Philippian believers to be filled with joy, a characteristic feature of this epistle. In fact, the wording indicates that the Philippians formed the very basis of Paul's thanksgiving. The entire body of memories brought thanksgiving and infused his prayers for them with joy. Joy gives vibrancy to prayers. This joy was in spite of his current circumstances and past hurts. It was directly connected to the people with whom he had labored and suffered. We pray with greater intensity and regularity for people and causes that bring us joy.

Verse 5. Paul's joy was rooted in the Philippians' partnership in spreading the gospel. This partnership involved believers joining together in the saving power of good news and the spread of its message. The Philippian church had contributed to Paul's efforts in spreading the gospel. The word translated "partnership" is most often rendered "fellowship." It means shared communication, distribution, and contributions. (See Acts 2:42-47.) All believers are to participate together in the saving power and message of the good news as the Philippians did.

Verse 6. As Paul wrote of his confidence in God's work in the Philippians, he glanced backward to their salvation and forward to the completion of their character at the day of Christ Jesus. Because he had been present when God started His good work of salvation in the Philippian believers, he was confident God would bring it to completion according to His divine plan and timetable. Paul could pray with joy and thankfulness because he knew God was working among the Philippian believers, and His work would end in the maturity of His church. He recognized the bodily return of Jesus as the consummation of God's plan for His redeemed. God's work in us will continue until the end of our lives or until Jesus returns.

Tip: Spend some time talking about how our salvation and growth are a gift from God, not something we earn. This is why you can have confidence in God, because it rests on Him.

The settled confidence expressed in verse 6 stems directly from the fellowship of the intercession of verse 4. Paul's joyful and frequent prayers for the Philippian church had produced a rich dividend of ongoing spiritual maturity and faith. No wonder his memories and prayers were filled with joy!



IMPART (10 MINUTES)

THE POINT PRAYER IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE JOY.



1 Read: Invite a student to read the passage.

▶ PHILIPPIANS 1:7-8

Here is Paul's genuine love for the church. This love reflects the fact that Paul lived what he taught. Deep friendships are rooted deep below his service. Paul and the Philippians built their friendship on the gospel.

➤ **Gospel-centered friendship (v. 7):** Paul held the Philippians in his heart. In Philippians 2:17, Paul wrote that he poured out his life for the Philippians. Paul and the Philippians modeled for us what it means to have Christian friendships centered on the gospel.

Paul reminded them why they were such close friends. The Philippians had partnered with Paul in grace while defending and establishing the gospel and during Paul's imprisonment. Being a partner in grace meant they suffered for Christ and shared in the struggle to share the gospel with each other (1:29-30).

➤ **Gospel-centered loyalty (v. 7):** Paul rejoiced because of the Philippians' loyalty toward him and the joint mission of spreading the gospel. They supported Paul through sharing the gospel, prayer, and financially while he was in prison. They didn't turn their backs on Paul, even though imprisonment brought shame in that time.

➤ **Gospel-centered encouragement (v. 8):** As Paul pondered his relationship with the Philippians, he reminded them of Christ's affection and how God was challenging him to love people in the same way.

WHAT OBSTACLES HINDER US FROM BUILDING DEEP RELATIONSHIPS?



2 Read: Discuss with your students the obstacles we face when forming sincere relationships.

3 Summarize: Walk your students through the importance of gospel-centered friendship and what it truly looks like.

4 Discuss: Determine ways your group can develop deep, lasting gospel relationships like the ones Paul wrote about.

HOW CAN OUR GROUP BUILD THE KIND OF RELATIONSHIPS PAUL DESCRIBED IN THESE VERSES?



COMMENTARY

PHILIPPIANS 1:7-8

It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. **PHILIPPIANS 1:7-8**

Verse 7. Pray with joy for what God is doing. Paul's joyful remembrances and earnest prayers for the Philippians were entirely proper and correct, as they stemmed from his deep love for them. The phrase I hold you in my heart could just as accurately be rendered "you have me in your heart." Either translation demonstrates a strong mutual love forged in faith and trials. It is obvious that Paul and the Philippian believers shared this bond from their troublesome experiences in giving birth to the church in their city. They were indeed partners who had both experienced God's grace and showed it in their actions to others. Grace is defined as both God's unmerited favor toward sinners, and His divine influence upon the heart. Grace in turn reflects in the life of the believer. The Philippians reciprocated Paul's love and demonstrated God's grace by not abandoning or disowning Paul because of his imprisonment. They sent Epaphroditus to his jail with financial support.

The Philippians were thus gracious partners in his imprisonment and stood with him in his defense and establishment of the gospel. These are legal terms, essentially official language from a formal defense. The first is a judicial term for an attorney presenting a verbal defense. Paul had presented himself and the gospel to various groups and political officials in Palestine: the rioting crowd (Acts 22:1-22), the Jewish Sanhedrin (23:1-10), Governor Felix (24:1-21), Drusilla (vv. 24-26), Festus (25:4-12), King Agrippa and Bernice (26:1-32). Indeed, his presence in Rome was for yet another official hearing. It is possible he had already had a preliminary inquiry before Caesar, predating his letter to the Philippians. His experience at defending his actions and the gospel message was vast, but his efforts were made easier by knowing he had loving support.

Tip: You don't have to wait to ask a question or discuss an important point. Feel free to take time to talk about what stands out to your group.

Verse 8. Paul's love and longing for the Philippians was a distinctly Christian tie to which God Himself could testify. Witness is the word from which we get our English word martyr. Paul could solemnly appeal to God to testify of his love for the Philippian believers. Affection is a word referring to the region of the heart, lungs, and intestines. This was thought to be the very seat of human emotion. And yet, it was not with merely a human love that Paul longed after his brethren, but with the very love of Christ Jesus. The supernatural love of God was felt by Paul for the Philippian believers.

Paul could pray with joy over what had been accomplished in the past, but he could also pray with joy for the Philippians' current stand with him as he suffered for and defended the good news of the gospel. Standing alone is supremely difficult, but it is not necessary. God has designed and commanded His church to stand together. When believers labor together in prayer for the work of God in our world, we become joyful witnesses to supernatural God-sized results.



IMPART (10 MINUTES)

THE POINT PRAYER IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE JOY.

1 Do: Allow students time to finish the optional **Action Point** (p. 84) in the PSG.

2 Read: Ask a student to read the passage for the group.

3 Summarize: Explain this section for your students.

4 Read: Guide students to read each section aloud.

5 Discuss: Review this question with your students.

6 Do: Direct students to complete the **Action Point**. Discuss your answers as a group.

WHY ARE BOTH KNOWLEDGE AND DISCERNMENT NECESSARY FOR LOVING OTHERS LIKE CHRIST?

PHILIPPIANS 1:9-11

Knowledge asks, "What is right?" Discernment asks, "What is best?" Love leads us to live out what is both right and best. Paul here wants to avoid the two extremes.

- 1. Never seeking knowledge results in terrible choices and following people who prey on our ignorant emotions.**
- 2. Only seeking knowledge with no genuine love for Christ or others restricts us from knowing the right answers and never allows for our changing relationships and lives.**

Love isn't cold or blind. It's affectionate and biblically informed. Love is the beginning of godly knowledge and discernment. Paul wanted them to grow in this love.

- 1. To approve the things that are superior.** Approve means to test or examine. Paul's prayer was for the Philippians to choose God's best in their lives and relationships.
- 2. To live pure and blameless.** Paul also explained it as being filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus. Our righteousness is given by faith (Phil. 3:9). We're declared righteous and made acceptable to God through Christ. Paul was telling the Philippians to live righteously from the position of righteousness we have from Christ. When we plant our roots in the streams of Christ, good fruit emerges.

ACTION POINT:



Joy, true and lasting happiness, comes from our relationship with Christ, and our relationship with Christ depends on our focus. Nick Vujicic was born with no arms or legs, and by most assessments he had a pretty grim set of circumstances. At the age of 15, Vujicic was reading the Gospel of John in his Bible when he came across the story of a man who was born blind.⁴ Jesus announced the reason behind his blindness to be so the glory of God could be seen through him. This truth brought Vujicic to Christ and allowed him to reach millions of people with the gospel of Christ.

➤ What circumstances in your life can be seen as opportunities to show God's glory?

COMMENTARY

PHILIPPIANS 1:9-11

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. **PHILIPPIANS 1:9-11**

Verse 9. Pray with joy for what God will continue to do. We pray only the best for those whom we truly love. Notice Paul did not ask for riches or worldly prosperity for those at Philippi, although it seems they were poor (2 Cor. 8:1-5). He knew spiritual blessings are more important and valuable—and much more enduring. Having witnessed firsthand their love (agape, sacrificial love), he prayed for it to continue growing more and more. This selfless brand of love given wholly to benefit others would be best guided by knowledge (gained by experience), and tempered by an enlarging understanding of God. It is not an intellectual knowledge from deductive reasoning, but a relational knowledge gained through the experience of loving others. This love would also be guided by depth of insight. This refers to a sense of moral perception and delicate sensibility that allows us to express our love appropriately. Christian love is not a raging flood of uncontrolled emotion overflowing its banks; instead it is a powerful, guided stream that, within its banks, benefits all who approach its shores. The love and judgment Paul espoused here were those seen in Christ as the ultimate example, and those consistent with Scripture.

Verse 10. With this kind of maturing love, the Philippian believers could discern (prove or test) everything they heard and experienced. Greeks used this word to describe candidates who had successfully completed their examinations and become doctors of medicine. It indicates the ability to sift or test by trial, to recognize worth, and therefore render a stamp of approval. (See Rom. 12:2, “discern”.) Here it suggests maturing believers determine correct moral conduct and values. They do so in order that their lives would be pure and blameless.

Tip: Ask students how they would respond to the situations you are studying in Scripture. This will help them better apply the study to their lives.

Verse 11. This growing and discerning love would result in a growing character. Filled (perfectly supplied) is in a tense meaning a past action that bears on the present. Fruit is a harvest of evidence of the righteousness of Christ. The righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ is a harvest of morality and Christian character that glorifies and reveals God. This is a product of our relationship with Christ and His transforming work in us through the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23). We have been filled with the evidence of Christ’s imputed righteousness as a result of the ongoing work of God in us.

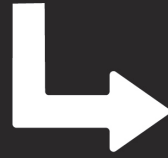
The idea and future reality of the day of Christ characterized Paul’s thoughts. Paul was not alone in his preoccupation with it. (See 2 Pet. 3:10-13). God’s work in us and our cooperation with Him is to continue throughout our lifetimes, so at its end we will not be ashamed at Christ’s coming. Paul viewed every aspect of salvation as the handiwork of God’s grace and an offering to God’s glory. The chief end of people is the glory of God. Therefore, the glory and praise belong to God, not to us.

Paul’s joyful prayer for his Philippian brethren was for a discerning love that correctly chooses God’s best for them and for others.



IMPACT (10 MINUTES)

THE POINT PRAYER IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE JOY.



LIVE IT OUT

"PRAYER IS CONSTANT FELLOWSHIP AND UNBROKEN AUDIENCE WITH THE KING."⁵
—E. M. BOUNDS

BIBLE READING PLAN



DAY 1
MATTHEW 6:5-13

DAY 2
JEREMIAH 42:1-12

DAY 3
LUKE 18:1-14

DAY 4
JOHN 17:1-19

DAY 5
JOHN 17:20-26

DAY 6
2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

DAY 7
ROMANS 8:13-30

▶ CHRIST

Christ-followers are blessed with far more than they deserve. Regardless of your circumstances, continually remind yourself of the following gifts as you read God's Word and pray.

- ▶ **The gift of your salvation.**
- ▶ **The hope and purpose the gospel gives your life.**
- ▶ **The relationships and mentors God has placed in your life for encouragement.**

▶ COMMUNITY

It is hard to be joyful when praying about a difficult matter, but Philippians 1:6 is a reminder that God is at work even when we don't yet see the result. As a group, assign partners to pray for one another each week before closing the session in prayer together.

1 Discuss: Read and discuss the quote with students.

2 Guide: The **Christ** portion of the **Live It Out** section encourages students to dig deeply into God's Word. Remember the **Bible Reading Plan** provides students with a custom reading plan to stay in God's Word and follows along with each session.

3 Guide: As you guide your students through the **Community** section, remember to emphasize the need for believers to pray with one another about difficult situations..

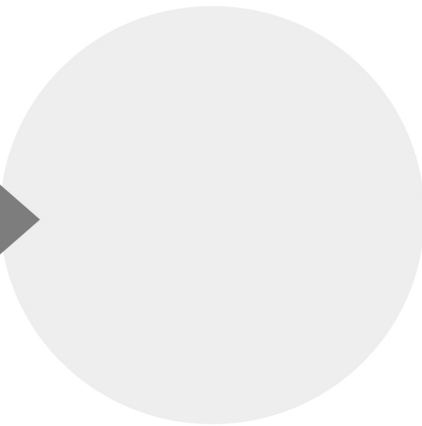


IMPACT

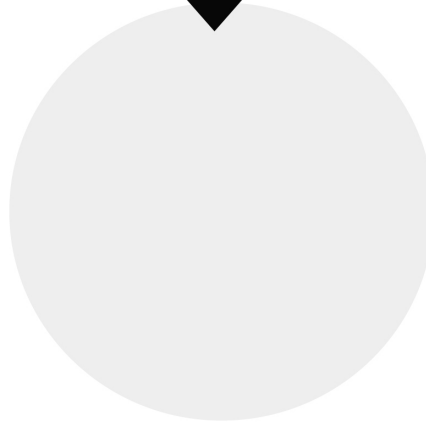
► CULTURE

The world sees our joy from the overflow of our lives. Many Christians fail to live in joy because the focus of their lives is incorrectly adjusted. Until we place Jesus as our top priority and orient our lives toward serving others, we will only be as happy as our circumstances allow instead of as joyful as Jesus wants. Take a few moments to pray and list how you can reorient your life toward joy.

List two things you can do to make Jesus the top priority in your life.



List three ways you can serve others above yourself.



How are your circumstances being used by Christ?



4

Guide: The **Culture** section equips students to apply this session to their lives every week. Help your students see themselves and others through the lens of God's Word to develop a lifestyle of investing in others for the gospel.

5

Pray: Close in prayer asking God to help everyone in your group see their lives through the lens of Jesus, others, and yourself. Pray God would give them clear and practical opportunities throughout the week.

6

Follow Up: This week connect with your students by texting them during the day and sharing situations and circumstances when you applied Jesus, others, and yourself.