

# JOY



IN THE MIDST

# WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO PHILIPPIANS—BIBLICAL JOY

\*\*\*If you haven't been baptized, consider getting baptized during one of the services on August 24-25 & 29 (next weekend and a week from this Thursday). You can also invite family and friends to get baptized. Go to [shepherdchurch.com/baptism](http://shepherdchurch.com/baptism) for more information!

## WELCOME

What advice would you offer if you could write a letter to your 16-year-old self?

## WORD

1. Who wrote this letter? Under what circumstances was this letter written?

# WEEK 1: INTRO: BIBLICAL JOY (THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS)

2. Read **Philippians 1:6, 21; 2:3-4; 3:13-14; 4:6, 13**. According to these verses, what are some key principles that Paul is trying to communicate in this letter?

3. In the video lesson, Michael Johnson identified four “joy robbers”—circumstances, people, past, and worry. Currently, which “joy robber” is the biggest threat to your joy?

# WEEK 1: INTRO: BIBLICAL JOY (THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS)

4. What does Paul say about joy in **Philippians 1:4, 25; 2:1-2; 4:1**?

5. How have you found joy during challenging circumstances?

# WEEK 1: INTRO: BIBLICAL JOY (THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS)

6. In the video lesson, Michael Johnson said that Paul's secret sauce was his mindset because outlook determines outcome. How have you found this to be true in your life?

## **WORSHIP**

Joy flows from abiding in Christ. As our study of Philippians begins, write down prayer requests from people in your group. After taking prayer requests, pray for each member to abide in Christ as it relates to that specific prayer request.

# WEEK 1: INTRO: BIBLICAL JOY (THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS)

## **WITNESS**

How does maintaining joy during difficult times serve as an effective evangelistic tool? Which person in your life needs to see this joy in your life?

## **PERSONAL REFLECTION & DEEPER STUDY FOR THIS WEEK**

- Choose one of the verses from this lesson to memorize
- In one setting, read Philippians each day this week.
- Pray and write down some of the things you hope to get out of this new series.