

# “Between a Rock and a Hard Joy”

Phil 1:19-26

(Pastor Bryan Chapell 10-02-2016)

Connect:

- 1) Where did you see God at work this week?
- 2) When was a time you found yourself between a rock and a hard place?

Discuss:

- 1) Read Phil. 1:19-26 together and share any takeaways from the sermon or personal study of the passage.
- 2) Christ’s mission enables us to discover the joy that is the strength to really live. Like Paul, what needs do we have for joy in Christ? (vs. 20)
- 3) Where is the fuel for such joy in a fallen world? (vs 19; Rom 8:26-28) How does that truth shape your thoughts and beliefs concerning the importance of praying?
- 4) Discuss what “For me to live-Christ” means. Use the following outline to help you discuss this but also share then which one you desire God to deepen your own awareness of in your heart and life.
  - a) Christ’s Identity (vs. 21a)
  - b) Christ’s Perception- His hand at work all around (vs. 21a)
  - c) Christ’s Purpose (vv. 22-25)
  - d) Christ’s Power- think of Corrie Ten Boom’s glove illustration (vv. 26)
- 5) *Trust is faith present and Hope is faith future.* How does the hope of glory that we see Paul personally expressing, when he says “and to die is gain” (vs. 21) enable us to live life fully and joyfully even in hard times?
- 6) How did the life story of Corrie Ten Boom encourage you in Christ?

Partner:

\*\*Consider dividing up your group (men with men; women with women) for this section.

1. How do you want to respond to God’s word and work in your life this week?
2. Share any other prayer requests others have and commit to praying for them throughout the week.