

## ***Philippians 1:12-18***

<sup>12</sup> I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, <sup>13</sup> so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup> And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. <sup>15</sup> Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. <sup>16</sup> The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. <sup>17</sup> The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. <sup>18</sup> What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

## **Advancing the Gospel: Our Highest Priority**

Philippians 1:12-18

Todd Chapman - September 24, 2017

Paul shows us how we will approach the challenges of life when advancing the gospel is our highest priority. When, like Paul, our greatest ambition is to promote Jesus' love, we seize every opportunity for Him.

### **We approach difficult circumstances as opportunities. 1:12-14**

- **Paul's highest priority**
- **Paul's challenge**
- **Paul's perspective**
- **Paul's action**
- **The Dividends**

### **We approach difficult people wisely and not defensively. 1:15-18**

- **Paul's highest priority**
- **Paul's challenge**
- **Paul's perspective**
- **Paul's action**
- **The Dividends**

## Notes:

## *Life Group Discussion Questions:*

### **Philippians 1:12-18**

#### **What does it say?**

1. What has happened to Paul in v. 12?
2. How has Paul's imprisonment served to advance the Gospel?
3. Who are the "most of the brothers" in v. 14? What do they believe about Paul's imprisonment?
4. Who are the "some" who are preaching Christ out of rivalry? What do they believe about Paul's imprisonment?
5. How is Paul's imprisonment "for the defense of the Gospel"?
6. How are his rivals hoping to 'afflict' Paul in his imprisonment?
7. How would you state the big idea of Philippians 1:12-18?

#### **How does it apply?**

1. How should Paul's imprisonment be an encouragement to us? What should it encourage us towards?
2. What typically keeps us from proclaiming the Gospel?
3. How can we have greater trust that God is at work and using our circumstances?
4. How could our difficult circumstance serve to advance the Gospel?
5. Do you feel God calling you to proclaim the Gospel somewhere specific or to someone in particular? Let the group pray with you over that opportunity.