

**Philippians 1:12-20**  
**Finding Joy in the Gospel's Advance**

**Big Question: How can the spread of the Gospel bring joy?**

Background.

- a. Paul is in prison (13)
- b. Paul has rivals (15-18)
  - They are envious
  - They are selfish
  - They desire trouble for Paul
  - They have false motive
1. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ for the Christian's life.
  - a. The advance of the gospel is more important than personal \_\_\_\_\_ (12)
  - b. Paul's circumstances have taken the gospel to new \_\_\_\_\_ (13-14)
  - c. That the gospel being preached is more important than the \_\_\_\_\_ of the one who preaches (15-18)
  - d. Paul trusts God will bring him out of his \_\_\_\_\_ (19)
  - e. Honoring God with his life is top \_\_\_\_\_ (20)

Conclusion: The right perspective about our circumstances and how they fit into the plans of God can bring us joy.

Two illustrations:

1. A pastor friend and the death of his wife
2. Paul's testimony in 1 Corinthians 16:9