

REAL TRUTH...TRUE JOY
Philippians 1:1-26
October 23, 2012

I. Introduction to Philippians

A. Who

1. From Paul
2. To the church at Philippi
 - a. Strategic, important city
3. The church was founded by Paul
4. Probably his favorite church

B. When

1. Church founding
2. Letter

C. Where

1. Paul is in _____
 - a. Traditional opinion = _____
 - b. Other opinions

2. Awaiting trial

D. Why

1. _____ note
2. A plea for _____
3. And encouragement to _____

4. A warning against _____

5. An explanation of Paul's _____

E. Themes

1. Christian _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. The relationship between God's _____ and human

II. The Letter Opening – Philippians 1:1-11

A. Conventional Letters

1. Paul keeps with convention...sort of!

B. Humility on Display – Vv. 1-2

1. Paul and Timothy
a. Sharing the stage

2. Slaves

3. Why?
a. Unity requires _____

4. Reminder of who they were – saints
a. _____ ones

5. Grace and peace

C. Thankful for the Philippians – Vv. 3-8

1. Joy

a. Theme

b. Modeling

2. Partnership

3. God's _____

4. Affection

5. Share in grace

D. Praying for the Philippians' Spiritual Growth – Vv. 9-11

1. The prayer in a nutshell

2. Unity

3. Knowledge, insight, discernment

a. Knowledge

b. Insight

c. Discernment

4. Pure and blameless

5. Fruit of righteousness

6. Result

III. Progress of the Gospel – Vv. 12-18a

A. What Paul Wants Them to Know – Vv. 12-14

1. Transition

2. In chains for Christ
 - a. Not just that he was in prison for the _____ of Christ
 - b. It also means he was participating in Christ's _____ by being in prison

3. Bold witness

B. Bold Witness – Vv. 15-18a

1. Preaching out of envy

2. Motivations matter, but...

IV. Life and Death – Vv. 18b-26

A. Christ Exalted – Vv. 18b-20

1. Deliverance = _____
 - a. May mean his _____
 - b. May mean his final _____

2. Eagerly expect
 - a. Very strong, emotional word

3. Christ exalted

B. To Live is Christ...to Die is Gain – Vv. 21-26

1. Paul's perspective on his circumstances
 - a. To live is _____

 - b. To die is _____

2. Modeling for the Philippians...again

3. Death and our culture

4. Transition

V. Conclusion

A. Viewing Our Own Trials

1. Questions to ponder

a. How might God be working in the _____
_____ of my life to _____ the
_____ either in my own life or in the life of others

b. And if God is using those things to advance the gospel, ought we
not _____ in that?