From Worship to Weekday - June 19th 2022

From Worship To Weekday is a study guide that can be used in your small group or individually to bring the Biblical truths you heard on Sunday into your daily life.

Sermon Series: Something Better

In the face of a world compromised by sin, the Bible holds out the hope and promise of something better. This "something better" is marked by the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5). The Greek word translated "fruit" refers to the natural product of a living thing. Paul used "fruit" to help us understand the product of the Holy Spirit, who lives inside every believer. The fruit of the Spirit is produced by the Spirit, not by the Christian, and this is what makes life better. This 9-week series will take a closer look at each of the concepts embedded in this "fruit of the Spirit".

Something Better: Joy
Philippians 1:12-26

12 I want you to know, brothers,5 that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, 13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. 14 And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

15 Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. 16 The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

Yes, and I will rejoice, 19 for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, 20 as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. 24 But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. 25 Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, 26 so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

1. Joy is different from Happiness. Joy has been expressed as "An Attitude of Gratitude." The idea is that joy can be experienced during any situation because the individual has their eyes fixed on Jesus (read Hebrews 12:1-3). What event or daily occurrence gives you the greatest joy?

2. Paul is writing this letter to the church members at Philippi while he is in prison. If you can imagine being in prison, what would be the greatest challenge to you experiencing joy?

3. Ultimately, our joy as Christians comes from knowing that no matter what we are going through pales in comparison to being with Jesus for eternity- where there will be no more tears, or hunger, or pain. How might knowing what comes after this life influence how you react to your day to day struggles?

4. Paul mentions that it is necessary for him to remain on earth so that he can influence people in progressing in their joy. Who in your life expresses their joy so effortlessly that it encourages you to be more joyful? Who could you influence to experience more joy by being more joyful?

5. Why is Joy truly a fruit of the Holy Spirit? Answer: The Spirit sees challenges and difficulties in our life differently than we do. What needs to change in your thought process to allow the Spirit to teach you to view life different?