

**OCF Small Groups:** *passionately pursuing God, healthy relationships with each other, and people who don't know Jesus, as part of a Gospel Community.*

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

(Sunday, September 12)

1.
  - a. When you have had a bad day, what do you do before the day is over?
  - b. Are you the kind of person who sees the glass half-empty or half-full?
  
2.
  - a. What things have happened to Paul that you would find discouraging?
  - b. What bad situations are present in your life right now? How does this passage help or not help you to view those situations?
  - c. When have you seen God work good out of seemingly insurmountable problems? How did the experience(s) affect your faith?
  
3. Paul refused to dwell on the negative aspects of his situation. How do you think a person develops this habit?
  
  
4.
  - a. Do you ever lose your courage in sharing the gospel (see v.14)? If so, what kinds of situations discourage you?
  - b. In what ways are you, like Paul, defending or confirming the gospel? What difficult situations are you facing as you do this?
  - c. If you're not sharing the gospel, what is holding you back from doing so?

5. Has God "chained" you to anyone (in a hospital bed, office, home, and so on) in order to share the gospel (see 1:13)? If so, how can you use those chains to God's advantage?
  
6. Paul joyfully celebrates the gospel's advance through Christ being preached. Is this just his own personal testimony to the Philippians, or something more? Is he simply informing them, or implying something more for them? What is he saying without saying it?

### **SCRIPTURE MEDITATION** Philippians 1: 18

What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

### **PRAY**

Lord Jesus, thank you for saving me. Give me more faith and boldness to tell the truth about your death, burial, and resurrection. Use my proclamation of the gospel to embolden others to share their faith. Help me to trust that you will advance the gospel and may that bring me joy. Thank you for using me for your glory and the good of others. in Jesus' name I pray, AMEN.