

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Choosing Joy

Speaker: Andrew Boone

Message: Live Humbly. Live Worthy.

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Memory Verse: Philippians 4:8 NIV

Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Live Humbly. Live Worthy.

Read Philippians 1:27-30

1. The way we live our life says something about the God we profess (v 27). What do you think Paul means by living a life "worthy of the gospel of Christ?" What is the gospel, and how does it inform or challenge your daily behavior and choices? What are some areas in your life where you find it hardest to live in a way that is "worthy" of the gospel?
2. Our faith will face opposition, but we should not be frightened (v 28). Who or what are the "opponents" of the gospel message in your life or our culture today? Do you feel a sense of guilt or complacency when reading about the persecution faced by early believers or Christians globally today? How does the presence of opposition and hardship help to clarify faith and distinguish it from cultural or nominal Christianity?
3. Suffering for the cause of Christ should be seen as a high honor because it allows believers to share in the experience of Christ and the apostles (vv 29-30). In what ways have you experienced light suffering (e.g., ridicule, exclusion, criticism) because you follow Jesus? How did you respond, and



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what did you learn? How does this truth change your perspective on difficulties you face because of your faith?

Read Philippians 2:1-11

4. Paul speaks about the importance of unity among believers (vv 1-2). What typically makes unity challenging? In what things is it important to have unity, and where can we have variety? How can we still live in unity with others if we do not agree 100% with someone else?
5. It is very easy to be self-focused, but we are challenged to consider others more important than ourselves (v 3). What emotions rise in you when you hear the directive to value others above yourself? Where do you feel the rub most when trying to live this out? What is a beginning step you can take that will help you improve in this area?
6. We all cognitively and emotionally want to help others, but not everyone actually does anything to be helpful (v 4). What can keep the good things in our head and heart from moving to our hands? One way we are living out our 230K by 2030 Vision is through acts of service. How can you plan to serve someone else within the next week? When we serve, how can we use that as an opportunity to point to Jesus?
7. We are called to have our attitudes and thoughts be the same as Jesus (v 5). What does it look like to live a life where our attitudes and thoughts reflect Jesus? Where specifically in your life would you like to improve your attitudes and thoughts so that they are more aligned with Jesus?
8. Throughout Scripture we see a theme indicating that humbling ourselves will result in God exalting us (Matthew 23:12; James 4:10; Proverbs 29:23). We see this same thing happen with Christ (v 8-9). When you imagine God exalting someone, what do you picture? Peace? Influence? Character? Fruitfulness? Something else? How does God “lifting you up” differ from people applauding you? How would your life look different if you aimed for God’s approval and exaltation rather than recognition from others?



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